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ABSTRACT

This teaching unit celebrates the 15th anniversary of the twinning of the prefecture of Hokkaido (Japan) and the province of Alberta (Canada) by providing students opportunities to learn more about the two areas and their relationships. Coordinated to address objectives in the grade 7 program of studies on cultural transition, the activities include: (1) introductory activities about twinning and a role play about a student exchange; (2) development activities describing where and what it is like in Hokkaido, and what students and adults do there; and (3) culminating activities that celebrate the twinning of Hokkaido and Alberta. The materials can be adapted to meet learner needs. (EH)

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ED 404 236

TWINNING AND WINNING!
HOKKAIDO, JAPAN
AND
ALBERTA, CANADA

A Grade 7, Topic B, Social Studies Teaching Resource
Prepared in Recognition of the 15th Anniversary of
the Twinning of Hokkaido, Japan and Alberta, Canad

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November 1995

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EDUCATION
Curriculum Standards Branch

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CELEBRATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TWINNING OF HOKKAIDO, JAPAN AND ALBERTA, CANADA

The July 1995 Visit of Governor Tatsuya Hori, Hokkaido, Japan

The Honourable Ralph Klein,
Premier of the Province of Alberta
and Governor Tatsuya Hori,
Hokkaido, Japan.
Edmonton, Alberta—July 1995

Greetings at the
Alberta Legislature

The Sake Barrel Ceremony

Premier Klein wearing a
traditional Happi coat

Photographs courtesy of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs.

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Proclamation of Friendship and Affiliation
Between
the Province of Alberta, Canada and the Prefecture of Hokkaido, Japan

In consequence of their mutual desire to promote lasting friendly relations, the Province of Alberta, Canada, and the Prefecture of Hokkaido, Japan, do formally agree to conclude this Proclamation of Friendship and Affiliation.

Alberta and Hokkaido will continue to strive to develop interchanges in various fields of activity, with the objective of deepening mutual understanding and furthering their common interests.

We firmly believe that this affiliation will serve to unite the people of Alberta and the people of Hokkaido in strengthening their bonds of friendship and in promoting exchanges among the peoples of the northern regions, and that such cooperation will be of mutual benefit to the development of the Province of Alberta and the Prefecture of Hokkaido.

It is also resolved that representatives of both governments will meet at least once every two years to review the progress achieved.

In witness thereof, this Proclamation is signed in the city of Sapporo, the Prefecture of Hokkaido, on this 17th day in the month of October in the year 1980.

Peter Lougheed
Premier
Province of Alberta

Witnessed by

Dick Johnston
Minister of Federal
& Intergovernmental Affairs
Province of Alberta

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OVERVIEW

Purpose

The purpose of this teaching resource is to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the twinning of the prefecture of Hokkaido and the province of Alberta by providing students with opportunities to learn more about Hokkaido and Alberta and their relationship.

This teaching resource addresses aspects of selected objectives in Alberta Education's program of studies for Grade 7 Social Studies, Topic 7B: Cultural Transition: A Case Study of Japan.

This resource addresses aspects of selected objectives in Alberta Education's program of studies for Grade 7 Social Studies, Topic 7B: Cultural Transition: A Case Study of Japan. It includes teaching suggestions and student and teaching resources that provide information about Hokkaido and its reciprocal relationship with Alberta.

The following activities are included in this resource:

- introductory activities about twinning, and a role play about a student exchange
- developmental activities describing where and what it is like in Hokkaido, and what students and adults do there
- culminating activities that celebrate the twinning of Hokkaido and Alberta.

The activities in this package may be integrated with those suggested in the *Junior High Social Studies Teacher Resource Manual*, 1989, pages 58 to 71.

This topic is not intended to cover all of the prescribed objectives for Social Studies, Topic 7B. It is designed to provide students and teachers with current information about the relationship between Hokkaido and Alberta.

Note to Teacher: It is important to consider the nature and needs of your students and their community so you can adapt this resource to meet learner needs.

Timeline	Description of the Lessons	Classes (45 min.)
	Introductory Activities	
	What Is Twinning?	2
	Student Exchange	2
	Developmental Activities	
	Where Is Hokkaido?	1
	What Is It Like in Hokkaido?	1
	Population Density	1
	Climate	1
	Symbols and Emblems of Hokkaido and Alberta	1
	Schooling	2
	Celebrations	1–2
	Industry in Hokkaido	1–2
	Culminating Activities	
	Twinning and Winning: A Celebration	2–4

Curriculum Fit

This resource addresses aspects of the following inquiry question, and knowledge, skills and attitude objectives in the program of studies for Social Studies, Topic 7B.

Topic 7B: Cultural Transition: A Case Study of Japan

Inquiry Question

In this teaching resource, the following question can provide a focus for teachers to organize the knowledge, skills and attitude objectives for instructional purposes.

- Does twinning encourage cultural and economic change?

Knowledge Objectives

Major Generalization:	cultural transition occurs as a result of internal and external influences.
Generalization:	change results from one cause or a combination of causes.
Concept:	agents of change.
Related Concepts and Facts:	contact with other cultures.

Skills Objectives

- Process Skills
  - Locating/interpreting/organizing
    - identify and define topics
    - find information to answer questions through listening, observing, reading and using community resources
    - identify relationships among variables within charts, graphs and tables
    - read and interpret various maps to identify relationships between geography and Japanese culture.

- Analyzing/synthesizing/evaluating
  - compare information about a topic drawn from various sources to see if it is identical, similar, parallel or inconsistent, unrelated or contradictory
  - identify and evaluate alternative answers, conclusions, solutions or decisions regarding questions and issues that were used for inquiry and research.

- Communication Skills
  - Convey thoughts, feelings and information in an oral presentation.

- Participation Skills
  - Converse with others in a variety of settings, including informal, small groups and whole class discussions.

Attitude Objectives

- Appreciation of change as a common feature of life in all cultures.
- Willingness to consider opinions and interpretations different from one's own.
- Sensitivity to the customs and beliefs of cultural groups other than one's own.

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITIES

What Is Twinning?

Overview

This lesson introduces students to the concept of "twinning", especially the twinning between the prefecture of Hokkaido and the province of Alberta.

Objectives

Students will:

- understand that "twinning" involves many aspects
- be able to classify twinning information according to economic and social activities.

Student Resources

Student Resource 1: Background to the Hokkaido–Alberta Twinning

Strategies

- In order to link the notion of "twins" with the political idea of "twinning", start with what students know about twins. Here are some sample questions to reinforce this concept.

  - What stories about twins could you share with the class?
  - Why are twins thought to be special?
  - How could you help your "twin"?
  - How could your "twin" help you?

  The responses to these questions could be recorded on one half of a sheet of poster paper, labelled "Twins", with the other side left blank.

  To conclude this concept review, reinforce with students that even twins have similarities and differences that can enhance their unique relationship.

- Introduce the idea that cities and provinces have decided to "twin" themselves in order to establish special relationships with each other. For example, Hokkaido and Alberta declared that they would establish a sister-province relationship (or become twins) in October 1980. Cities and towns have also twinned themselves together. There are eight Alberta municipalities twinned with Hokkaido towns and cities. Their relationships have flourished due to the commitment that these "twins" have shown in undertaking home stay, cultural, student and teacher exchange programs.

Alberta Municipalities	**Hokkaido Twin Towns**
Barrhead	Tokoro
Camrose	Kamifurano
Canmore	Higashikawa
Lacombe	Rikubetsu
Rocky Mountain House	Kamikawa
Stettler	Okoppe
Stony Plain	Shikaoi
Wetaskiwin	Ashoro

- Appendix F has a list of schools currently twinned. For additional information about the twinning of schools, contact:

  Alberta International School Partnership Program
  National and International Education
  Alberta Education
  Telephone: 403–427–2035

  Your students were not yet born in 1980, but they can hypothesize what might have prompted a prefecture in Japan and a province in Canada to declare their intent to share a unique relationship with each other. To do this you might ask your students:

  – Why did Hokkaido and Alberta decide to become "twins"?

Student responses will probably be extensions of some of their ideas from their concept of twins. Their reasons and initial understanding of "twinning" could be recorded on the blank side of the "Twins" poster and labelled "Twinning".

Responses will likely reveal a lack of information about Hokkaido and Alberta and may prompt students to ask questions about what they need to know in order to answer the initial question. If it seems appropriate, record these questions on a large sheet of paper and post it in the classroom to guide further research.

- Students in small groups of three could conduct an analysis of Student Resource 1: Background to the Hokkaido–Alberta Twinning. They could sort the data according to the four parts of lifestyle and culture that students examined in Topic 7A: Culture; covering communication, institutions, roles and responsibilities, and beliefs and values (see page 42 of the teacher resource manual). They could take turns doing three tasks: sorting, explaining and recording. One member sorts part of the reading into categories, while the second member explains why each category was chosen. The third member records the group decision on a sheet of paper divided into four squares, one for each of the four categories. Roles could be rotated after each classification of information. At the end of the activity each student should copy the final chart.

- Students could then create a concept web of "twinning" that might include some essential elements identified by the class during the previous parts of the lesson, and use examples of twinning from the reading.

  This is a possible exercise to evaluate student understanding of the concept of twinning. It is also early feedback for the teacher about their development of the concept.

BACKGROUND TO THE HOKKAIDO–ALBERTA TWINNING

Alberta's relations with Hokkaido began in 1972 with an invitation from the Governor of Hokkaido to attend an international conference of northern regions. A group from Alberta attended the conference where similar interests were identified and the first education, culture and sports exchanges were started. Between 1972 and 1980 more of these exchanges led to the 1980 agreement that formally twinned the prefecture of Hokkaido and the province of Alberta. This special relationship has made it possible for the people of Hokkaido and Alberta to share their cultures and deepen their understanding of one another.

Hokkaido, the northernmost of Japan's four major islands, has much in common with Alberta. Both have agricultural-based economies and share similar climates and topography. Hokkaido has rich agricultural resources (its main products are rice, wheat, beans and potatoes) and a large dairy and livestock industry. Its manufacturing industry centres on food, lumber, and pulp and paper products. With a winter similar to Alberta's; skiing, hockey, ice skating, and more recently curling, are popular activities. In the summer, baseball, volleyball and golf are the main forms of recreation. Based on these similarities, a broad range of activities and exchanges have been initiated over the years. The large number of ordinary citizens who have been able to participate in the twinning activities is a model for international relationships.

15th Anniversary Celebrations

An exhibition of Ainu (Hokkaido's native people pronounced "eye - noo") and modern Hokkaido art was arranged by the Hokkaido government to be shown at the Provincial Museum in Edmonton during the spring and summer of 1995 and at Calgary's Glenbow Museum during the summer and early fall of 1995. Hokkaido was featured at Klondike Days in Edmonton during the summer of 1995 and the Governor of Hokkaido came to Alberta on an official visit. Alberta arranged a number of events, centred around established exchange activities, to take place in Hokkaido during the anniversary year. Events such as a "friendship mission" to Hokkaido, gift books given to Hokkaido schools twinned with Alberta, participation in a wheelchair marathon, and promotion of Alberta tourism, trade and investment.

(continued)

Ongoing Exchange Activities

1. Doctors and researchers from Sapporo Medical College and the universities of Calgary and Alberta have been working together.

2. The University of Alberta's Circumpolar Institute and Hokkaido's Northern Regions Centre (Hoppoken) have cooperated in research about the effects of cold weather on the environment, wildlife management, housing and economic development.

3. Hokkaido and Alberta have developed a dairy exchange program, food processing and technology exchange, and exchanges of plant genes to breed better varieties of spring and winter wheat.

4. Hokkaido Takushoshu Bank and the Canadian Western Bank have agreed to exchange information on investment and trade opportunities. As well, there has been a Commercial Exchange Committee that has focused on building products, wood products, manufactured goods and food products. Some Alberta companies are selling their products in Hokkaido.

5. Twenty-two Alberta schools are twinned with similar institutions in Hokkaido. These exchanges range from penpal relationships to student and teacher exchanges.

6. Six post-secondary institutions have connections with Hokkaido and have developed joint study programs in Japanese and English language training, building and construction techniques, and Canadian Studies. Several students from Hokkaido and Alberta go to the others' province to study.

7. Eight Alberta municipalities are twinned with Hokkaido towns. There have been exchanges between these "twins" of hockey teams, women's groups, tourists, students and commercial opportunities.

8. The governments of Hokkaido and Alberta have exchanged representatives to help each other with their relationships.

9. Volunteer agencies, like the Wild Rose Foundation in Alberta, have begun to work with similar agencies in Hokkaido to help meet the needs of their respective societies.

10. There have been many sports exchanges, the latest of which is the curling exchange between Hokkaido and Alberta.

Adapted from: International Division, Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs, Government of Alberta, September 1995. *Hokkaido–Alberta Relations.*

Student Exchange

Overview

This lesson has students identify questions about the culture of Hokkaido by engaging them in the initial stages of an international student exchange program. These questions will become the basis of their research about Hokkaido.

Objectives

Students will:

- be able to describe, using appropriate detail, the elements of their municipality to an imaginary exchange student from Hokkaido
- become acquainted with the structure of the school system in Japan, especially that of a junior high school
- create questions they would have as an exchange student going to Hokkaido.

Student Resources

Student Resource 2: Exchange Letter
Student Resource 3: Japanese Schools

Teaching Resources

Transparency: Alberta–Hokkaido Student Exchange Program Information

Strategies

- Use the transparency to brief students about the program and allow them to question and clarify the data. This will set the stage for them to imagine that they have been chosen to participate in this program.

- Next, have students work in pairs to describe themselves and their Alberta municipality to their exchange partner from Hokkaido in a letter format. They can use the Student Resource 2: Exchange Letter, to guide their thinking.

Evaluation Criteria

This process can be accomplished using self and peer evaluation prior to the teacher assessment. A possible scoring guide follows: 0 = Not yet acceptable; 1 = Acceptable; 2 = Excellent. The total possible score, using the criteria below is 20.

Format of letter, with:

return address/date	/2
inside address	/2
greeting	/1
closing	/1
sentence structure and grammar	/2
spelling	/2
neatness	/2

Content: Did the student include appropriate information about the following topics?

yourself	/2
your family	/2
your school	/2
your community	/2

- Some students might like to contribute to a "time capsule" of artifacts that would describe their culture and be kept in the classroom. This collection of artifacts could possibly trigger extensions of ideas from their culture to that of the Japanese. "If this is what we use to describe our culture, I wonder what the equivalent item is like in Hokkaido?"

- To give students some sense of what it might be like at a school in Hokkaido distribute, and have them read, Student Resource 3: Japanese Schools (this will be used again in a later lesson). Here you might be able to add to the class list of artifacts that children in Hokkaido might use. As well, you might encourage students to comment and discuss what they have learned about schooling in Japan.

- Students will now be asked to take part in a brainwrite activity (see page 58 of the teacher resource manual) to discover what they want to know about Hokkaido. This is similar to the oral brainstorm activity, but

responses are written down. A brainwrite activity begins with small groups of students being asked to write down some of their ideas about what they want to know about Hokkaido. Students are to write freely, without correcting or editing. When a person is finished, their paper is placed in the middle of the table. Participants then read the paper of another person. Each reader writes to respond to what is written on the paper to extend, or clarify the question, possibly answer the question, or write another question based on the ones they have just read. The reading and responding continues for a set period of time or until each person has responded to each paper. At the end of the process, the papers are returned to the authors, who read all responses. The group can then review the possible questions about Hokkaido.

- The questions that are generated by the class could be categorized and then posted in the room. These questions could be used to direct student learning. You may wish to modify some of the activities in the developmental part of this teaching resource to reflect the interests and needs of your students as identified by their questions.

EXCHANGE LETTER

What should you write to your exchange partner? Let your partner know about:

- yourself – photos, typical daily activities, domestic chores, weekend activities, favourite foods.
- your family – typical evening and weekend activities, photos.
- your school – include the basic school routines and expectations, possible courses, and extracurricular activities.
- your community – clubs, recreation facilities, geographic location, population, economy of the area, cultural and sporting activities, maps, photos and newspapers.

Your first letter should be composed very carefully in English. Later, letters could contain some Japanese language.

English	Japanese	Pronunciation
How do you do. (upon first meeting)	hajimemashite	haw-gee-may-mash-tay
Pleased to meet you.	dôzo yoroshiku	doh-zo yoh-row-she-koo
How are you?	ogenki desu ka	oh-gay-ehn-key dess kah
I'm fine.	genki desu	gay-ehn-key dess
Good morning. (to 10 AM)	ohayô gozaimasu	oh-haw-yoh go-zye-mass
Good day. (10 AM to dark)	konnichiwa	cone-nee-chee-wah
Good evening. (after dark)	konbanwa	cone-bahn-wah
See you later.	mata ato de	mah-tah ah-toe day
Good bye. (if for awhile)	sayônara	sah-yoh-nah-rah
Please.		
• when offering something	dôzo	doh-zo
• when making a polite request	kudasai	koo-dah-sigh
• when asking for help	onegai shimasu	oh-neh-guy she-mass
Thank you.	arigatô	ah-ree-gah-toe
You're welcome.	dôitashimashite	doh-ee-tah-she-mash-tay
No, thank you.	kekkô desu	cake-koh dess
Do you understand?	wakarimasu ka	wah-kah-ree-mass kah
Yes, I understand.	hai, wakarimasu	high, wah-kah-ree-mass
No, I don't understand.	iie, wakarimasen	ee-ay, wah-kah-ree-mah-sehn
Excuse me.		
• sorry for intruding	sumimasen	sue-me-mah-sehn
• sorry but . . .	shitsurei shimasu	she-tsue-ray she-mass
• sorry apology	gomen nasai	go-mehn nah-sigh
(a) letter	tegami	teh-gah-me
(a) friend	tomodachi	toe-moh-dah-chee
Congratulations!	omedetô gozaimasu	oh-meh-deh-toe go-zye-mass
Happy birthday!	otanjôbi omedetô	oh-tahn-joe-be oh-meh-deh-toe
Good luck!	seiko o inorimasu	say-koh oh ee-noh-ree-mass

JAPANESE SCHOOLS

There are five stages to Japanese schooling: kindergarten, one to three years; elementary, six years; junior high school, three years; senior high school, three years; and post-secondary study, usually four years. Education is compulsory between 6 and 15 years of age.

Junior high school graduates enter senior high schools by passing entrance examinations. About 97 per cent of junior high school students go on to high school. Because of competition and heavy homework loads, many students attend preparatory schools, called *juku*, where they get additional, after-school and weekend help. Attending *juku* can start as early as the kindergarten years.

A regular school year runs from the beginning of April to the end of March with a summer break of about 40 days, another 10 days at the New Year and about two weeks between the old and new school years.

Classes are held five and half days a week, Monday through to noon on Saturday, for about 240 days a year. Hours are usually 8:30 a.m. until about 3:30 p.m., but most students stay much later than this to participate in sport and club activities and to prepare for field trips and other special events.

Most junior and senior high schools require students to wear uniforms, and dress and appearance codes are strict. Boys' uniforms have generally been black with brass buttons and standup collars; girls usually have worn navy blue uniforms with pleated skirts. Recently, though, many schools are changing the styles of their uniforms to be more modern. Students usually have a summer and a winter set of uniforms.

Students and teachers are responsible for keeping the school neat and clean. At the end of each day, a period of time is set aside for cleaning the classrooms, hallways, washrooms and other common areas, including outside.

In junior high school, students are required to study the following subjects: Japanese language, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, home economics, and fine arts.

Most Japanese students study English. They start in junior high school, and study it for about six years. Studies are focused mainly on grammar, reading and writing, rather than on conversational English.

(continued)

Although Japanese grammar may not be so difficult, writing Japanese takes a lot of time and practice to learn. There are three main types of Japanese characters; *kanji*, *hiragana* and *katakana*. The Japanese language is usually written in a combination of all three. Roman letters (*romaji*) are also used, but more for such things as in advertising.

Kanji are ideograms borrowed from the Chinese and adapted and modified for Japanese use. They represent ideas and meanings and are usually expressed by main words. *Hiragana* is generally used for word endings, such as present or past tense, for linking ideas together, for words for which there are no *kanji*, or for beginning reading and writing materials for children. *Katakana* is most often used for words borrowed from other languages, including English.

Both *hiragana* and *katakana* systems have 46 symbols. Each symbol stands for one phonetic sound. *Kanji* have complicated forms and each can be pronounced in more than one way. There are over 2,000 *kanji* in everyday use, and many, many more for particular subjects. Japanese students must know how to read and write about 1000 *kanji* before completing elementary school, and they learn most of the rest by the time they finish junior high school. Writing can be done either vertically right-to-left and top-to-bottom; or, horizontally, just as is done in English.

KANJI SAMPLE

NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
KANJI	一	二	三	四	五	六	七	八	九	十
PRONUN-CIATION	ICHI	NI	SAN	SHI/ YON	GO	ROKU	SHICHI/ NANA	HACHI	KYÛ	JÛ

(continued)

HIRAGANA SYLLABARY

/N/	/w/	/r/	/y/	/m/	/h/	/n/	/t/	/s/	/k/	
n ん	wa わ	ra ら	ya や	ma ま	ha は	na な	ta た	sa さ	ka か	あ /a/ ←
		ri り		mi み	hi ひ	ni に	chi ち	shi し	ki き	い /i/ ←
		ru る	yu ゆ	mu む	fu ふ	nu ぬ	tsu つ	su す	ku く	う /u/ ←
		re れ		me め	he へ	ne ね	te て	se せ	ke け	え /e/ ←
	wo を	ro ろ	yo よ	mo も	ho ほ	no の	to と	so そ	ko こ	お /o/ ←

KATAKANA SYLLABARY

/N/	/w/	/r/	/y/	/m/	/h/	/n/	/t/	/s/	/k/	
ン	ワ	ラ	ヤ	マ	ハ	ナ	タ	サ	カ	ア /a/
		リ		ミ	ヒ	ニ	チ	シ	キ	イ /i/
		ル	ユ	ム	フ	ヌ	ツ	ス	ク	ウ /u/
		レ		メ	ヘ	ネ	テ	セ	ケ	エ /e/
	ヲ	ロ	ヨ	モ	ホ	ノ	ト	ソ	コ	オ /o/

Alberta–Hokkaido Student Exchange Program Information

Imagine that you are one of the ten students chosen in Alberta to participate in this exchange. Each of you will spend time preparing for the other's visit, and then spend two months in the other's home.

The goals of the program are to help you:

- improve your knowledge of the Japanese language
- learn about the Japanese culture
- experience a new school system
- experience personal growth in social skills and independence.

You might find it useful to identify other personal goals, like being flexible, being willing to try new activities, being more friendly, patient, tolerant, or being more independent.

You are enrolled in Japanese as a Second Language program in your school, or demonstrate some fluency in Japanese. You have good academic achievement, and participate actively in your school; you are flexible and open to new experiences and a new culture. You are motivated to participate in this type of learning activity, and have the support of your parents, school and teacher who is coordinating the program.

Costs for participation in this program are the responsibility of your family, including travel costs, as well as additional costs of having your partner in your family for two months.

Timelines for the program are as follows: August—Alberta students depart; October—Alberta students return to Canada; November—Hokkaido students come to Alberta; January—Hokkaido students return to Japan.

You must give a high priority to your Japanese partner and fulfill your responsibility of host. Because you will be away from your school for two months you will have to specially plan your courses for the year. Most importantly, you must respect house rules in your host home in regard to curfews and chores. Of course, you will respect and abide by the "law of the land".

Adapted from: *Alberta/Hokkaido Students Exchange: Program Handbook, Student/Family Edition*, and *School Edition*, 1994. Alberta Education.

DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Where Is Hokkaido?

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to answer the question, Where is Hokkaido? using relative and absolute location, and time zone information.

Objectives

Students will:

- know the absolute location of Hokkaido
- be able to locate Hokkaido, using other known places
- be able to compare the location of Hokkaido with that of Alberta, using absolute and relative location and time zone information.

Student Resources

World Map, Atlas (supplied by teacher)
Local Telephone White Pages (homework assignment)

Strategies

- Using a map of the world, have students locate Japan. Responses are likely to use some elements of "relative location" (see page 92 of the teacher resource manual).

  Note: Each map has a particular orientation; likely your map is centred on the Atlantic Ocean. Students in Japan use maps that have the Pacific Ocean at the centre.

  These responses can be the basis of a classroom definition of relative location, based on distance and direction to identify the location of a place, using the known location of another. Students can then locate Hokkaido, using relative location. This information can be recorded in their notes, as well as the definition of relative location.

- You can have students become more familiar with an atlas and absolute location (latitude and longitude) by asking them:

  – Is Hokkaido at about the same latitude as Alberta?

  Using a world atlas, have students identify the latitude and longitude of Edmonton, Alberta and Sapporo, Hokkaido. Possible questions you might ask are:

  – Using the range of latitude, which province/ prefecture is furthest north? South?

  – What difference in climate could the variation in latitude create?

  – Would they have as much daylight in the summer as we do?

  – Would Alberta's daylight hours be shorter or longer in the winter compared to those of Hokkaido?

- Questions that focused on the concept of longitude might include some of the following.

  If you had to telephone your exchange friend in Sapporo, and you wanted to talk at 7:00 p.m. Sapporo time, what time would you have to call? (You might want to discuss Daylight Saving Time—time zones are 15 degrees apart.)

  – If it is 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton, what time is it in Sapporo?

  – What is the range of Alberta's longitude, and how does it compare with Hokkaido's?

  – If it is Tuesday in Alberta, what day is it in Hokkaido? Remember, a new day starts on the western side of the International Date Line and sweeps westward through Asia, Europe and finally to the Americas.

- For homework, ask students to use the local telephone white pages to find out how much it would cost to make a direct dial telephone call to Japan at 4:00 p.m., their own time, for an 8-minute call. What time would it be in Hokkaido, and what day would it be?

What Is It Like in Hokkaido?

Population Density

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to have students become aware of the impact of population density.

Objectives

Students will:

- be able to calculate the ratio for population density for Alberta and Hokkaido
- be able to physically represent the area and population density for Alberta and Hokkaido
- be able to understand the difference between the areas and population densities of Alberta and Hokkaido.

Resources

Access to the gymnasium or the school field
Pylons or similar markers, such as garbage cans

Strategies

- Provide students with the following data.

Province/ Prefecture	Population	Area
Alberta	2.703 million (1994)	661 000 km^2
Hokkaido	5.64 million (1994)	83 409 km^2

Ask them to calculate the population density for each place, that is, what would be the average number of people per square kilometre in Alberta and Hokkaido (population divided by area).

- To physically represent these diverse population densities, arrange for students to go to the gymnasium, or outside, if weather permits.

  To demonstrate the area of Alberta, step off an area 25 by 25 paces (equivalent to 25 × 25 metres, which is 625 square metres), multiplied by one million this would be an approximate representation of the area of Alberta. Indicate this area with "markers".

  To represent the area of Hokkaido, step off a 9 × 9 metre area within the "area" of Alberta. This will approximate the area of Hokkaido in relation to the area of Alberta. Mark this area off, using the pylons.

- To demonstrate the comparison of population densities of Alberta and Hokkaido, have students do the following exercise: mark an area 2 metres × 2 metres. Have two students stand in this space to represent the population density of Alberta. Since Hokkaido's population density is about 16.5 times larger than Alberta's, a class of about 30 students could try to fit into the 2-metre × 2-metre square. Discuss with students the concept of population density.

  Note: Hokkaido is the least populated area of Japan, with places like Tokyo having a population density of over 2 000 people per square kilometre.

  To represent Alberta's population density (4.1 people per square kilometre), choose 4 people and place them into the 25 × 25 area.

- When students return from the exercise, have them complete the following statements:
  - To be in Alberta it feels like . . .
  - To be in Hokkaido it must feel like . . .

  Most Albertans live in cities or towns. Have students hypothesize about the population densities of Alberta and Hokkaido, by asking:
  - Would Alberta cities and towns be less crowded than those of Hokkaido? Why or why not?

Note the concept of vertical development, and the growing tendency for land developers to reduce the size of house lots and thereby increase the population density. This is partly an economic argument, so that local municipalities do not have to keep expanding and have to keep adding utilities and roadways, which increase local taxes.

Climate

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to have students recognize the differences and similarities in the climates of Hokkaido and Alberta.

Objectives

Students will:

- be able to read climate charts to compare Hokkaido and Alberta

Student Resources

Student Resource 4: Climate

Strategies

- To introduce this topic, you might ask students these questions:
  - What clothing do you think you might pack when you go to Hokkaido in August and return from there in October?
  - What type of information do you think you need to be able to answer the first question?

  This second question can be answered by pairs of students generating a point form list of information that they might think is relevant.

  Then ask the pairs of students to turn each of their point form ideas into questions that they will answer for themselves when they obtain some climate data.

  To evaluate this exercise, you might suggest to students that they have five different questions written to earn 5 points. One additional point will be added for each question generated to a maximum of 10 points. This allows students to earn a score that they want.

- After students have had sufficient time to create their sets of questions, provide them with the Student Resource 4: Climate, which has various information and climate charts for students to interpret, using their own set of questions.

  As students are busy answering their own questions, you might go around the classroom and visually score the number of **different** questions that have been created by the pairs of students.

- If students have questions that were not answered by the information supplied, have them determine where they might go to get the answers.

CLIMATE

CLIMATE/AVERAGE DAILY MINIMUM (L), MAXIMUM (H), AND MEAN (M) MONTHLY TEMPERATURE DEGREES CELSIUS

	BANFF			CALGARY			EDMONTON			FT. MCMURRAY			JASPER			LETHBRIDGE			PEACE RIVER		
	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M
Jan.	–16	–7	–12	–18	–6	–12	–19	–11	–15	–27	–17	–22	–18	–8	–13	–16	–5	–10	–26	–15	–20
Feb.	–12	–1	–6	–13	–2	–7	–14	–5	–10	–22	–9	–15	–12	–1	–7	–11	0	–5	–19	–8	–14
Mar.	–9	3	–3	–10	2	–4	–16	–2	–9	–9	3	–3	–9	3	–3	–8	4	–2	–15	–2	–9
Apr.	–4	8	2	–3	9	3	–1	10	4	–5	9	2	–3	10	3	–1	11	5	–4	8	2
May	1	14	8	3	16	9	5	17	11	2	17	10	2	16	9	4	18	11	3	17	10
June	5	18	12	7	20	14	10	21	15	7	21	14	6	19	12	9	22	15	7	20	14
July	7	22	15	9	23	16	12	23	17	10	23	16	8	23	15	11	26	19	9	22	16
Aug.	6	21	14	8	22	14	11	22	16	8	21	15	7	21	14	10	25	18	8	21	14
Sept.	3	16	9	4	17	11	6	17	11	3	15	9	3	16	10	6	20	13	3	15	9
Oct.	–1	10	4	–1	12	6	0	11	6	–2	9	3	–1	10	5	1	14	8	–2	9	4
Nov.	–8	1	–4	–9	3	–3	–8	0	–4	–13	–4	–8	–9	1	–4	–7	5	–1	–13	–3	–8
Dec.	–13	–5	–9	–14	–2	–8	–15	–6	–10	–22	–12	–17	–14	–5	–9	–11	0	–6	–20	–10	–15

Source: Alberta Tourism, February 1991.

TOTAL HOURS BRIGHT SUNSHINE

	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Banff	200	207	255	214	171
Calgary	237	240	317	278	188
Edmonton	272	265	306	269	185
Fort McMurray	255	291	306	265	162
Lethbridge	260	265	345	301	215
Beaverlodge (Grande Prairie)	270	276	300	259	176

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH RAINFALL

	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Banff	10	13	12	12	11
Calgary	9	13	11	11	8
Edmonton	9	13	13	13	9
Fort McMurray	9	12	14	13	11
Jasper	9	10	8	8	7
Lethbridge	9	10	8	8	7
Peace River	8	11	12	10	10

Source: Alberta Tourism, February 1991.

Climate of Hokkaido

Hokkaido has a long coastline and is surrounded by seas on all sides. Average annual coastline temperatures range from 5°C to 9°C, which means Hokkaido is in the southern part of the subarctic zone. Within Hokkaido, temperatures can vary. The western coastal areas have a relatively mild climate because of the warm Tsushima Current, whereas the eastern coastal areas have cooler temperatures due to the cold Kurile Current.

The interior area of Hokkaido has a continental-type of climate with wider climate variations. The temperatures in this area can range from –30°C to above 30°C. There is snow from late October to late April each year.

The most snow falls in the western areas facing the Sea of Japan and in the central mountain area. There is very little snow in the area facing the Pacific Ocean.

(continued)

Sapporo Average Temperatures and Rainfall in 1990

Month	Average Temperature (°C)	Rainfall (mm)
January	–1.2	182.0
February	–2.8	106.0
March	0.3	60.5
April	8.0	77.5
May	13.8	23.0
June	18.8	28.0
July	20.2	76.5
August	21.5	108.0
September	18.4	56.0
October	12.7	84.0
November	4.7	54.0
December	–0.9	117.0
	Average 9.5	Total 972.5

Source: *Hokkaido Profile*, August 1992. Hokkaido Government.

Symbols and Emblems of Hokkaido and Alberta

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to introduce students to the symbols and emblems that represent Hokkaido and Alberta.

Objectives

Students will:

- become aware of some of the symbols and emblems of Hokkaido and Alberta
- be able to compare and contrast these symbols and emblems
- extrapolate meaning about these symbols and emblems.

Student Resources

Student Resource 5: Symbols and Emblems

Strategies

- To introduce the concept of symbols and emblems you might use the students' own experiences to extend their understanding. Questions, such as the following, might be appropriate.
  - Take a look at your clothing. What logos and/or symbols do you see there?
  - What messages are the manufacturers of your clothes trying to convey to you?
  - Do you know of other symbols and emblems? What do they stand for?
  - What symbols and emblems does Alberta use to identify itself?
  - Guess what symbols and emblems Hokkaido might use to identify itself?

- Distribute the Student Resource 5: Symbols and Emblems to students. Have them read the sheet and then possibly "check mark" the symbols and emblems that they recognize. Then, in their notes, have them define the concepts "symbol" and "emblem" from the preceding discussion and write down examples from Hokkaido and Alberta.

- To help students move beyond what the symbols and emblems are, and to hypothesize why those particular symbols and emblems were chosen rather than others, you might use some of the following questions.

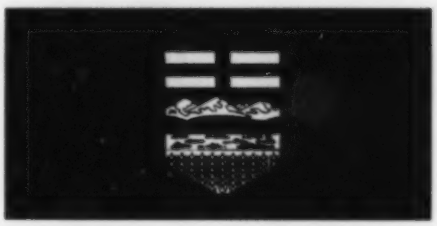
  - From observing the flags of Hokkaido and Alberta, what might explain the choices for each design?

  - What do the trees suggest about the type of vegetation in each place?

  - What possible reason is there for both having the rose as one of their symbols?

  - What is special about each of the birds?

SYMBOLS AND EMBLEMS

	Hokkaido	Alberta
Flag		
Tree	Ezo Spruce	Lodgepole Pine

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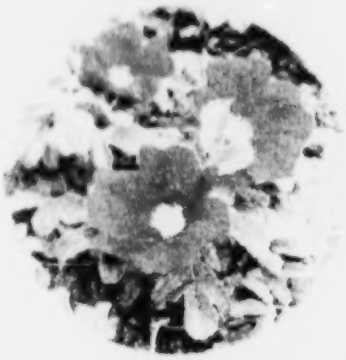
	Hokkaido	Alberta
Flower		
	Japanese Rose (*Rosa rugosa*)	Wild Rose (*Rosa acicularis*)
Bird		
	Red-crested Japanese Crane	Great Horned Owl
Other	Are there other symbols and emblems for Hokkaido and Alberta? If so, what are they?	

Schooling

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to have students examine the typical school situation they might find themselves in, if they were an exchange student in Hokkaido.

Objectives

Students will:

- understand the typical daily routines of the early adolescent Japanese youth
- be able to analyze the differences and similarities between Alberta schools and those in Hokkaido.

Student Resources

Student Resource 3: Japanese Schools
Student Resource 6: School Life in Hokkaido and Alberta

Strategies

- In order to orient students to the daily routines of Japanese junior high school students, have them review the Student Resource 3: Japanese Schools. Then have them complete the chart provided to compare and contrast the two school systems. This could be done individually, or in pairs.

  Note: Before doing this exercise, speak to your school principal to collect the pertinent data about the yearly hours and total number of days in your school.

- To help students analyze the information in Student Resource 6, you might ask the following.

  – What similarities would Hokkaido students find in Alberta classrooms?

  – From your comparisons of the information in the chart, would you say that the Japanese are receiving an education that is different from ours?

- Some people think that the Japanese have a much more rigorous type of education. Based on what you know, how would you respond to that idea?

- You might ask students to pretend that they are a student from Hokkaido and try to put themselves in the place of their exchange partner. What would it be like to return to school in Hokkaido after spending two months in Alberta? Then you might have them conduct a RAFT assignment (see page 126 of the teacher resource manual), using these ideas:

RAFT

Role	–	Japanese exchange student
Audience	–	Japanese parents
Format	–	letter/audio tape/poem–Haiku/etc.
Tense	–	present

- Supplementary questions, like the following, can be asked to explore further our values attached to education and our perception of the differences between our education system and the Japanese system.

  - Are you happy with the education that you are receiving?

  - Are you pleased with the effort that you are putting into your education?

  - If you could change anything about our education system, and replace it with a feature of the Japanese system, what would it be and why?

SCHOOL LIFE IN HOKKAIDO AND ALBERTA

CATEGORY	HOKKAIDO	OUR SCHOOL
• School year – start/finish – number of days		
• Number of school days per week		
• Number of hours per year (approximately)		
• Dress code		
• Subjects		

Celebrations

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to allow students to compare celebrations in Hokkaido with those of Alberta.

Objectives

Students will:

- become aware of national holidays and local festivals celebrated in Hokkaido
- compare and contrast these celebrations with those of Alberta
- create for themselves a Japanese craft.

Student Resources

Student Resource 7: Holidays and Some Festivals
Student Resource 8: Craft Ideas
Student Resource 9: A Small Gift

Strategies

- Have your students list from their knowledge as many Alberta holidays and celebrations (national and local) as they can. These can be posted on one side of a large sheet of paper titled "Our Holidays".

- Have your students predict what types of holidays might be celebrated in Hokkaido.

- Then have them read Student Resource 7: Holidays and Some Festivals. They can share their new knowledge with a partner and thereby reinforce this new information by telling each other about what they have found.

  Note: Some Japanese holidays are celebrated on Saturday, which is, of course, a regular school and work day for most Japanese. When a national holiday falls on Sunday, the following Monday becomes the holiday. Also, for example, if May 3 and May 5 fall on weekdays, the intervening day, May 4, is also a holiday.

- This activity might be appropriate for students to cultivate their appreciation of the artistic nature of much of the Japanese celebrations. As Japanese often decorate their homes and add to the festivities by creating special crafts, your students might enjoy doing the same. Some suggestions have been included in Student Resource 8: Craft Ideas.

- Students may wish to read Student Resource 9: A Small Gift to help them understand about Japanese culture.

HOLIDAYS AND SOME FESTIVALS

[•] = National Holiday
[★] = Hokkaido Festival
[NF] = National Festival

Date	Event	Explanation
[•] Jan. 1	New Year's Day (*oshogatsu*)	Until January 3rd, the new year celebrations occur. Families visit shrines and relatives and rid themselves of any bad memories from the previous year.
[•] Jan. 15	Adult's Day (*seijin no hi*)	People turning 20 are honoured for coming of age (voting age).
[★] Feb. (1st Sat. and Sun.)	Bear Festival (*kuma matsuri*)	The Ainu believe the bear to be a powerful god of the mountains. At this solemn festival a bear is offered fish and his spirit is then free to return to the heavens.
[★] Feb. (2nd week)	Sapporo Snow Festival (*yukimatsuri*)	Mammoth snow sculptures line Sapporo's main street and attract between 1 and 2 million people.
[NF] Feb. 3	Bean-throwing Ceremony (*setsubun*)	An evening activity announcing the arrival of spring. Shouting as roasted soy beans are scattered, bad luck is driven out and good luck is invited in.
[•] Feb. 11	National Foundation Day (*kenkoku kinen no hi*)	Anniversary of when the first emperor ascended the throne. Commemorates founding the nation and fostering patriotic feelings.
Feb. 14	St. Valentine's Day	This day is more important among the younger generation. On this day girls are allowed to send chocolates to any boys they like.
[NF] Mar. 3	Girl's Festival (Doll Festival) (*hina matsuri*)	This is a festival for girls. Girls dress in their best kimonos and display their beautiful ceremonial dolls on tiered stands covered in red. These dolls symbolize the imperial court of old.
[•] March	Spring Equinox (*shunbun no hi*)	Held on whichever calendar date the day and night are of equal length. Special services are held for remembering ancestors and offerings of flowers and food are made.
[★] Spring	Hakodate Goryokaku Festival	A star shaped fortress is host to a local celebration.
[★] Spring	Cherry Blossom Time (*sakura matsuri*)	In celebration of spring time, with a special event at Matsumae Castle Park.
[•] Apr. 29	Arbor (Greenery) Day (*midori no hi*)	Celebrate nature's beauty.
[•] May 3	Constitution Day (*kenpo kinenbi*)	Remembering the day the national constitution became effective (May 3, 1947) and to reaffirm hope in national growth.
[•] May 5	Children's Day (Boy's Festival) (*kodomo no hi*)	This is a festival for boys. Banners shaped like carp (*koinobori*)—one for each male living in the house—are flown on tall poles in people's gardens. These are symbols of strength and endurance.

(continued)

★	July (4th Sat. and Sun.)	Fire Festival (*orochon no himatsuri*)	In this festival the Ainu wear special costumes, dance around fires and offer up prayers.
NF	July 7	The Star Festival (*tanbata*)	There is a legend that two lovers (symbolized by stars Altair and Vega) separated by the Milky Way, are allowed to meet each year on this night. During *tanabata*, wishes are written on strips of paper and tied to bamboo branches. Wishes are said to come true, if the stars meet.
NF	Aug. 15	Festival of Souls (*obon*)	People try to return to their home towns to visit the graves of their relatives. Lanterns are set up to guide the souls of the dead, outdoor street dances are held and bonfires are lit.
★	Sep. (2nd Sun.)	Community Festival (*kushiro kotan matsuri*)	A *kotan* is an Ainu community. This quiet celebration is for giving thanks to the deity that watches over a particular community and is dedicated to the god of lakes.
NF	Mid-Sept.	Moon Viewing (*tsukimi*)	Decorations are made and drinks and special dumplings are enjoyed while appreciating gazing at the full moon.
•	Sept. 15	Respect for the Elderly Day (*keiro no hi*)	For showing respect and affection to the nations' seniors for their long devotion to society, as well as their long life. Seniors are invited to special entertainments and given gifts.
•	Sept.	Autumn Equinox (*shubun no hi*)	Held on whichever calendar date the day and night are of equal length. Ancestors are remembered as they were at the spring equinox.
•	Oct. 10	Health–Sports Day (*taiiku no hi*)	Established in 1964 to commemorate the Tokyo Olympic Games. A day for holding sporting events and fostering sound attitudes toward mind and body.
•	Nov. 3	Culture Day (*bunka no hi*)	This day is for celebrating a love of freedom and equality and for promoting culture.
NF	Nov. 15	Festival of 7, 5, 3 Day (*shichi go san*)	This is a festival when girls aged seven, boys aged five, and all three year-olds, are dressed in their best *kimonos* and taken by their parents to a local shrine or temple to offer gratitude for past blessings and prayers for future health and happiness.
•	Nov. 23	Labor Thanksgiving Day (*kinro kansha no hi*)	A day to celebrate labour and production and for recognizing the importance of work.
•	Dec. 23	Emperor's Birthday (*tenno tanjobi*)	Celebrates Emperor Akihito's birthday.
	Dec. 25	Christmas Day	This is not a holiday in Japan, but most people are aware of it. Some put up Christmas trees and eat favourite foods. Small children also enjoy a visit from "Santa Claus".
NF	Dec. 31	New Year's Eve (*omisoka*)	At midnight on Dec. 31 a special meal is eaten with foods symbolizing long life, happiness and diligence in work. Then many families watch special TV shows or play traditional games.

CRAFT IDEAS

MAKE A FAN

You've probably noticed how even a gentle breeze can make a hot day bearable. When the air is still, a fan can bring much-needed relief.

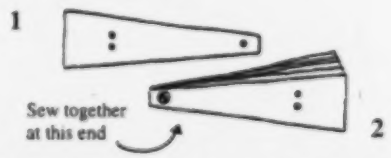
You can make your own simplified version of a Japanese folding fan, called a *sensu* (sehn-soo). These are often given as gifts to those going on a trip or getting married. The instructions can be found below.

Legend has it the folding fan was invented over 1,200 years ago by a Japanese craftsman who studied the way a bat's wings are jointed.

Fan-tastic!

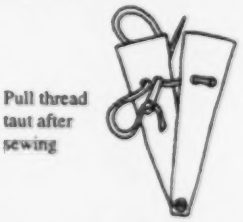
You can make a folding fan from poster board, embroidery thread, a needle, and two small buttons. Decorate the fan, either before or after it's assembled, with paint, crayons, or markers.

Cut 12 fan pieces, each 7" (18 cm) long, measuring 2" (5 cm) at one end tapering to ½" (1.5 cm) at the other end. Poke three holes in each with the needle (1). Sew the fan pieces together at the narrow end, sandwiching them between the buttons. Knot (2).



Rethread the needle, knotting the end. Insert the needle into the right-hand hole of the top fan piece from *behind*. Poke the needle through the other hole, pulling the thread tight.

Now insert the needle into the right-hand hole of the second fan piece, only this time from the front. Bring the needle through the second hole from behind, and once again push through the first hole from the front. Pull the thread just tight enough so the top fan piece overlaps half of the second fan piece.



Continue in this way until all fan pieces are loosely sewn to one another. Knot securely.

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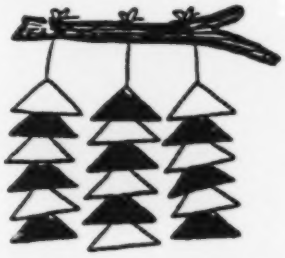
MAKE PAPER DECORATIONS FOR TANABATA

Tanabata (tah-nah-bah-tah) is a popular Japanese festival based on an ancient Chinese myth. As the story is told, there once was a star princess who was a weaver (she is represented by the star we call Vega) who fell in love with a cowherd star (Altair). The two were so in love that they neglected to do their work, and so were sent by the princess's father to opposite ends of the Milky Way. They were allowed to meet just once a year on the seventh day of the seventh month, crossing the heavens on a bridge made of birds.

Today, Japanese children write poems on long strips of paper and tie them to the branches of trees. Festive paper streamers representing the Milky Way decorate the streets all over the country.



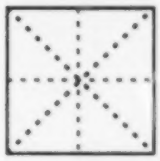
You can make a traditional *Tanabata* decoration to hang in your home. Just follow the simple directions in the box below.

Star Streamers

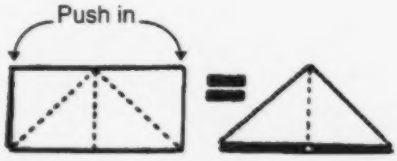
Gather lots of paper squares (use origami paper or cut your own from gift wrap), a stick about 2 feet (60 cm) long, a needle with a large eye, and some thin string.

To make one unit, fold a paper square (colored side up) in half to make a rectangle; fold in half again to make a small square. Unfold completely.

Fold the paper in half diagonally, then in half diagonally again. Unfold completely.



Refold the paper into a rectangle, pushing in the two sides to form a triangular shape.



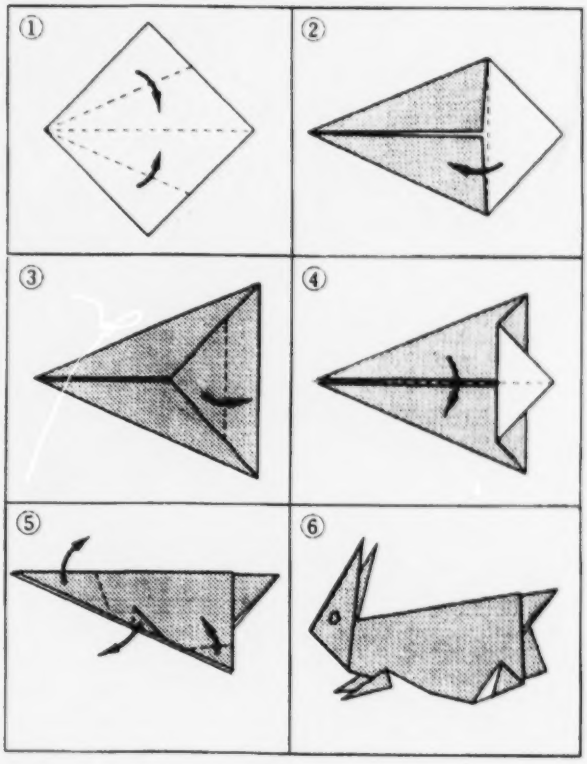
Make as many of these triangular units as you like. String them in long strands, using the needle and thread, knotting the string after each addition so the triangles stay apart. Tie several strands to the stick and hang.

(continued)

ORIGAMI RABBIT

To Japanese, the dark parts of the moon appear as a rabbit engaged in making rice cake. In addition, there are a number of old tales in Japan in which rabbits play an important role; thus they are one of the most popular animals among the Japanese.

1. Fold inside along dotted lines.
2. Fold triangle part as shown by arrow.
3. Fold triangle back as shown; cut along solid part of line shown in ④.
4. Fold top part down along center.
5. Cut along short, heavy line. To form front legs, bend as shown. To form ears, bend two points as shown. To form rear legs, bend lower, right corners as shown.
6. Completed rabbit.



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A SMALL GIFT

Noriko, a Japanese exchange student in a small North American town is having a birthday. Jenny, a friend of Noriko, has just remembered this and dashes out to buy a small gift to give to Noriko at lunch. Since she is in a hurry, Jenny does not bother to have the gift wrapped. She simply has it placed in a box and rushes back to school and gives Noriko the present. Noriko smiles politely, thanks Jenny, and puts the gift in her handbag without opening it. Jenny is disappointed. She wanted to see Noriko's reaction to what she bought. Why does Noriko not open the gift?

1. Japanese do not believe in giving gifts very often.
2. Japanese are not expected to open the gift in front of the gift giver.
3. She assumes that Jenny has purchased a small, inexpensive gift and she does not want to embarrass her by opening it.

Answers to these solution choices are:

1. This is not the case. Japanese people do give gifts and gift-giving is a well-developed art. As a matter of fact, twice a year it is customary to give gifts which repay debts of gratitude: *ochugen* at midyear and *oseibo* at year's end. These are also the times of employment bonuses.
2. Yes, this is a common Japanese custom. Most Japanese accept gifts and then put them aside. These gifts are opened later, at home, away from the giver. Next time the giver is seen, he or she is thanked profusely (and perhaps at subsequent times also). Another important point is the wrapping. Japanese almost always give gifts wrapped, often quite elaborately. Indeed, Japanese department stores seem to compete for the most unusual wrapping.
3. No, this is not the reason for Noriko's behavior, no matter what the size of the gift. As a matter of fact, she might be pleased if the gift is inexpensive, since a present that is too expensive would have to be reciprocated.

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Industry in Hokkaido

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to have students become aware of the types of industries in which the people of Hokkaido are employed.

Objectives

Students will:

- be able to translate written information into a chart format
- appreciate Hokkaido's unique contribution to Japan's economy.

Student Resources

Student Resource 10: Industry in Hokkaido
Student Resource 11: Hokkaido Is Number 1 in Japan

Strategies

- You can have students imagine what their student host's family does for their living. How might it be similar or different to their own family?

- From Student Resource 10: Industry in Hokkaido, rank order the industries mentioned in the article according to production from most to least. Also, students might make use of a "T" chart identifying the rank order of each industry's production on one side, and on the other, specific examples.

Industries by Rank in Hokkaido	Examples
agriculture	milk, sugar beets
forestry	paper
fishing	fish farms

- Next, have students define "exports" and give several examples of Hokkaido exports from the reading. Students could do the same for "imports".

- Have students compare Hokkaido's exports and imports. Do they balance each other? Do they export more or import more products? Why?

- Students may read the Student Resource 11: Hokkaido Is Number 1 in Japan to reinforce the types of industry in Hokkaido and to see if they can link some of the characteristics of industry in Hokkaido with those of Alberta. For example, Alberta also has several hot springs in the mountains, just like Hokkaido does!

INDUSTRY IN HOKKAIDO

Hokkaido's current industrial production represents approximately 4 per cent of Japan's Gross National Product. On an industry-by-industry comparison, agriculture, forestry and fishing occupy a relatively high position, followed by tertiary industries, such as services, banking, and the wholesale and retail sector. Manufacturing output in the secondary sector ranks low in comparison with forestry and fishing in particular, but the secondary industries are expected to become increasingly important when resources and finished products can be transported easily from the factory to the market.

The manufacturing sector, notably the processing and assembling industry, is the key to future economic growth, and it is essential to bring about rapid development in this area. To this end, Hokkaido has recently accelerated the construction of highways and airports as well as providing industrial sites for oil refineries and the electronic parts industry.

Hokkaido has immense land resources and considerable progress has been made in the modernization of its agriculture and the expansion of large-scale farming operations. Hokkaido is Japan's leading producer of such items as milk, sugar, beets, wheat and beans and has developed its own unique agricultural structure particularly suited to its northern latitudes, with relatively heavy emphasis on dairy farming, cattle raising and arable farming.

The local fishing industry has been severely affected by the recent introduction of 200-nautical-mile fishing limits and is therefore experiencing considerable hardship. Consequently, in order to encourage offshore fishing within its 200-nautical-mile zone, Hokkaido is now concentrating on the improvement of its coastal fishing grounds and encouraging fish culture by constructing large-scale offshore artificial shoaling grounds and fish farms.

The forested area of Hokkaido accounts for 71 per cent of its total land area. In order to increase its forestry resources, Hokkaido is emphasizing the preservation of its natural forests while encouraging the growth of man-made forests by careful thinning. Such programs as the provision of forest roads, the promotion of forestry-related industries, the stabilization of the lumber supply and demand situation, together with the development and use of mature trees, are vital parts of Hokkaido's far-reaching promotion of its forestry industry.

(continued)

Foreign Trade

Hokkaido's exports in 1993 were worth 126 342 million yen with imports amounting to 469 146 million yen. Many exports by category were machinery, iron and steel, ships, paper, electric machinery and vehicles, with the leading ten items accounting for 93 per cent of the value of total exports. These exports went to 72 different countries, led by USA, Belgium, Panama, United Kingdom and Spain.

Principal imports were oil, lumber and wood products, fish and shellfish, grain, fertilizer, pulp, with the value of the ten leading categories amounting to 88 per cent of imports overall. Imports came from 63 different countries, headed by USA, United Arab Emirates, Canada, Russia and Australia.

Source: *Hokkaido 1993*, Hokkaido Government, pages H5–H8.

HOKKAIDO IS NUMBER 1 IN JAPAN

(compared with other prefectures)

- Agricultural and livestock production (milk, beef, wheat, adzuki beans, potatoes, sugar beets, onions, sweet corn)
- Number of livestock raised (horses, dairy cows, sheep)
- Lumber production
- Fish haul (pollock, scallop, kelp, salmon and trout, saury, atka mackerel)
- Mine production (silver, iron, coal)
- Park area per person
- Number of national parks
- Number of ski slopes
- Number of grand champions of sumo wrestling (active and retired)
- Amount of air cargo (New Chitose–Haneda)
- Number of airline passengers (New Chitose–Haneda)
- Number of hot spring resorts.

Source: *Hokkaido 1994*, Hokkaido Government, page 14.

CULMINATING ACTIVITIES

Twinning and Winning: A Celebration

Overview

The intent of this lesson is to help students celebrate the twinning of Hokkaido and Alberta.

Objectives

Students will:

- synthesize their understanding of the twinning process by using a PMI chart (Plus, Minus, Interesting)
- strengthen their understanding of twinning through the use of analogy and metaphor (synectics)
- choose an appropriate form to present their learnings to an audience other than their own class.

Student Resources

Student Resource 12: Twinning PMI Chart

Note: Synectics is a method, devised by William Gordon (see References), to encourage creative, innovative solutions to problems by consciously reversing the order of things through conscious use of metaphor and "making the strange familiar and the familiar strange."

Assignments based on the synectics technique provide opportunities for students to be involved in all aspects of creative thinking; fluency, flexibility, originality and elaboration.

There are four types of analogy.

1. Personal – "If I were a pencil, how would I feel when I were put into a pencil sharpener?" Put themselves in the problem.

2. Direct – "How is a sandwich like a crowd?" Compare, using parallel facts between two objects.

3. Symbolic – "Peaceful terror describes what animal?" Use images to represent paradoxical qualities. Often involves the surprise factor.

4. Fantasy – "Trained grasshoppers working as parachute jumpers." Make improbable connections between the real world and a fantasy world.

Strategies

- In order for students to review what they have learned about the twinning of Hokkaido and Alberta you might have them complete Student Resource 12: Twinning PMI Chart (Plus, Minus, Interesting). Students could look back through their notes to examine the questions developed in the student exchange lesson and then recall what they have learned in this study, and thereby begin to classify that information according to its impact on twinning. That is, whether the information has a positive impact on twinning, which would be a plus, a negative one, which would be a minus, or, simply may be interesting. In this way, students reconceptualize the information to which they have been exposed which, in turn, reinforces their understandings.

- To have students review, and possibly expand, their understanding of the concept "twinning" you might take them through a synectics exercise (see note on the previous page).

  You may explain to the students that the exercise they are going to take part in involves no "correct or incorrect" responses. However, it does ask them to try hard to think in other ways that will help them better understand twinning.

- You may introduce students to the use of metaphors and analogies to help make connections between ideas. This might be done using an example, such as:

  - "Even though Hokkaido and Alberta are located in different countries, they are twins in many ways."

  - You can also introduce your students to a "fancy" term—synectics—which can be used to make some new connections and understandings in our minds. You might choose a direct analogy to do that, by asking:

    - "How is twinning like a package of coloured markers?"

- Or, choose a question of your own making. Students might be in groups of three to discuss and then to write down some of their ideas. These ideas could then be shared with the class to broaden the scope of ideas that are represented.

  Students could then revisit their concept web of twinning they constructed earlier to add to, or reinforce, their understanding of twinning.

- As a final exercise you may have students celebrate the twinning of Hokkaido and Alberta by producing a product for a chosen audience; e.g., other students at the same grade, younger students, nearby elementary students, parent groups. Audiences that are new to students often provide a stronger commitment to their preparation. The presentations might take several forms (see page 40 of the teacher resource manual): a story book theatre, a video play, a poem (perhaps Haiku), a mural, a dramatized sketch, a fable, an illustrated book, one of the forms of Japanese theatre (independent study of Noh, Bunraku or Kabuki may be needed here), or any other format that you or your students might suggest.

Choice of format is important so that students with different strengths will be able to demonstrate what they know in a way that is personally meaningful to them. You might have students identify which elements of the form they need to address in their presentation and propose how they will evaluate those criteria. Self- and peer-evaluation allow students to be more responsible for their own learning.

Students might choose several other students to be in their presentation group. When students have chosen a form in which to present their findings, they could then begin to ask themselves some questions, such as the following.

- What kinds of things will the audience be expecting to see from us?
- What does excellent performance of these expectations look like?
- What will we need to do to achieve this?
- How can we show what we know about Hokkaido–Alberta twinning, using this type of a performance?

You may want to design some check points for your students to meet as they prepare for the presentations on twinning.

The theme of this teaching project is the celebration of the twinning of Hokkaido and Alberta. Through your students' performances for others about twinning, some of the excitement about the Hokkaido–Alberta relationship can be felt and shared by others.

TWINNING PMI CHART

What do you know about the twinning of Hokkaido and Alberta?

Where would you put that information?

Use point form notation to complete this chart.

"+" Plus (positive)

"–" Minus (negative)

Interesting

APPENDIX A

HOKKAIDO–ALBERTA RELATIONS

Included courtesy of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Prepared by: International Division
Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs
September 1995

HOKKAIDO–ALBERTA RELATIONS

Alberta's relations with Hokkaido began in 1972 with an invitation from then-Governor Dogakinai to attend an international conference of northern regions countries. A delegation from Alberta attended the conference where areas of mutual interest were identified and the first education, culture and sports exchanges were initiated. Between 1972 and 1980, increased exchange activity in these areas led to the 1980 agreement which formalized the strategic relationship.

Hokkaido, the northernmost of Japan's four major islands, has much in common with Alberta. Both have resource-based economies, and share similar climates and topography. Hokkaido has rich agricultural resources (its main products are rice, wheat, beans and potatoes) and a large dairy and livestock industry. Its manufacturing industry centres on food, lumber, and pulp and paper products. With a winter similar to Alberta's, skiing, hockey, ice skating, and most recently, curling are popular activities. In the summer, baseball, volleyball, and golf are the main forms of recreation. Based on these similarities, a broad range of activities and exchanges have been initiated over the years.

Alberta–Hokkaido 15th Anniversary

1995 marks the 15th anniversary of the Alberta–Hokkaido twinning and has included a number of commemorative activities. The Hokkaido government arranged for an exhibition of Ainu and modern Japanese art to be shown in Alberta museums (Provincial Museum of Alberta and the Glenbow). Hokkaido was featured at the Klondike Days Trade Exposition in Edmonton this summer. In conjunction with these activities, the Governor of Hokkaido led a 300-member "Friendship Mission" to Alberta in July 1995. The Alberta government has arranged for a number of smaller events, centred around established exchange activities, to take place in Hokkaido during the anniversary year. These included participation in a wheelchair marathon, performances by an Alberta jazz dance troupe, and the presentation of books to twinned Hokkaido schools.

Medical

Numerous physicians and researchers from Sapporo Medical College and the Universities of Calgary and Alberta have been working together on joint research and clinical cooperation. Under this program a world authority on skin cancer from Sapporo Medical College moved to Alberta to establish a world-class skin cancer

research and treatment facility, which opened in 1988, at the University of Alberta. Similar medical exchanges are continuing.

Science and Technology

An Alberta cold weather science and technology mission to Hokkaido in 1985 identified areas of cooperation related to Northern (cold weather) concerns. An agreement to formalize exchanges in these areas was signed between the University of Alberta's Boreal Institute for Northern Studies and Hokkaido's Northern Regions Centre (Hoppoken). A joint research project on Urban Mobility in Winter was initiated as a result of this agreement. Hokkaido and Alberta also co-hosted (with Heilongjiang Province, China) a major International Symposium on Cold Regions Development in Harbin, China in August 1988. In June 1991, Alberta, Hokkaido and Heilongjiang hosted the second International Symposium in Edmonton, attended by representatives from 45 nations. The relationship between the Canadian Circumpolar Institute (formerly the Boreal Institute) and Hoppoken continues but there are no active mutual research projects at this time.

Alberta recently became a full member of the Northern Forum. The Northern Forum is an international organization that emphasizes communication and cooperation on a broad range of northern region concerns including the environment, wildlife management, housing and economic development. Hokkaido is one of its key backers and the 1995 Northern Forum meeting is being held in Sapporo.

Agriculture

The agricultural sector was the primary focus for commercial activity between Alberta and Hokkaido when the twinning agreement was initiated. Activity has dropped off in recent years, however, as Alberta is considered a competitor to Hokkaido in a number of key product areas. In the early 1980s, Alberta Agriculture and the University of Alberta's Faculty of Agriculture sponsored an Alberta–Hokkaido Dairy Exchange program. An academic exchange with the Department of Food Science was also initiated.

Staff from Alberta Agriculture's Food Processing Development Centre and Hokkaido Food Research Centre have visited representative research and development facilities in Leduc and Sapporo. Potential exists for food product/process development and technology transfer linkage.

Since 1990, Alberta Agriculture's Field Crops Branch and Hokkaido plant breeding institutions have been involved in a joint venture wheat breeding program. The program has focused on exchange of germplasma and technology in spring and winter wheat varieties, and has involved the study of agronomy and processing technology transfer.

In 1994, Alberta Agriculture's Marketing Services Division hosted a mission from Hokuren, a federation of 285 agricultural cooperatives located in Sapporo, which focused on information and technology transfer in Alberta's agri-food sector.

Commercial

The strategic relationship has helped to increase commercial opportunities for both provinces and a number of successes have been achieved in this area. However, the pursuit of strong commercial connections continues to be a challenge for both Alberta and Hokkaido. Most notably, in 1984, the Hokkaido Takushoshu Bank purchased a ten percent interest in the Canadian Western Bank and undertook to encourage an investment and trade activity.

Governor Takahiro Yokomichi, during his visit to Alberta in September 1985, agreed that the new focus for the special relationship should be the identification of commercial opportunities between Alberta and Hokkaido. The Hokkaido–Alberta Commercial Exchange Committee (HACEC), composed of government and private-sector representatives from both provinces, was subsequently created and had its first meeting in Sapporo in September 1986. In September 1989, it was determined that the two governments' role in initiating this exchange had achieved its purpose, and the exchange was handed over to the private sector for administration. HACEC became defunct several years thereafter.

There have been a number of missions, from both provinces, focusing on areas such as building products, wood products, manufactured goods and food products. Most recently, a 32-member Hokkaido builders mission visited Edmonton to meet with Alberta building products suppliers and manufacturers. Hokkaido builders were also heavily represented in the business contingent which accompanied Governor Hori during his July 1995 visit to Alberta.

An Alberta HACEC mission visited Hokkaido in March 1993, and a return mission from Hokkaido visited Alberta in July of the same year to continue discussion. Alta-Therm Industries signed an exclusive distribution agreement with Yamachi Housing in November 1993, and is now realizing significant sales of windows and other products to the Sapporo area. Another Edmonton company, Old Hippy Wood Products, has a joint venture which sells its furniture products in Sapporo.

Education

At present, 22 Alberta schools and 6 post-secondary institutions are twinned with schools in Hokkaido and involved in a range of activities from pen-pal relationships to student and teacher exchanges. Each year the Hokkaido Board of Education sends two teachers of Japanese language and culture to teach in Alberta senior high schools. This program has contributed significantly to the development of a Japanese language curriculum for Alberta schools. Reciprocally, a number of Alberta English as a Second Language teachers have been hired to teach in Hokkaido municipalities as resident teachers and "cultural consultants." A delegation from the Hokkaido Parent Teachers Association participated in the Asia Pacific Foundation Education Conference held in Edmonton in October 1994. In August 1994, Alberta and Hokkaido started a new high school student exchange program which will send 10 Alberta students a year to Hokkaido.

Advanced Education

A number of Alberta post-secondary institutions have affiliations with counterparts in Hokkaido and have developed joint study programs in Japanese and English language training, building and construction techniques, and Canadian Studies. An example is the summer student exchange program involving Higashi Nippon Gakuen University and the University of Alberta.

In the past, a number of Hokkaido post-secondary students have been given the opportunity to study in Alberta on scholarship. Following changes made to the graduate scholarship awards program in 1993, one award was made to Hokkaido in each of 1994 and 1995. The scholarships have been used by students in areas ranging from Anthropology to Civil Engineering.

In 1992 the Hokkaido Government established the Hokkaido Socio-Cultural Study Program which allows an Albertan to study in Hokkaido. The year long scholarship combines study with practical work experience in a Japanese firm. To date, three Albertans have participated in the program.

Municipal

There are eight Alberta municipalities twinned with Hokkaido towns:

Stony Plain and Shikaoi
Camrose and Kamifurano
Rocky Mountain House and Kamikawa
Wetaskiwin and Ashoro
Barrhead and Tokoro
Lacombe and Rikubetsu
Stettler and Okoppe
Canmore and Higashikawa

Visits between twinned municipalities have involved exchanges of hockey teams, women's groups, tourists, students, as well as the identification of commercial opportunities. In July 1995, a joint conference of Alberta–Hokkaido twinned municipalities was hosted by the Town of Stony Plain. Discussions focused on the effective management and maximization of twinning opportunities.

Staff Exchange

In 1991, Alberta and Hokkaido agreed to exchange staff to facilitate the relationship. The first Hokkaido official, Mr. Toshiyuki Kuroda, was posted to Alberta in August 1992 and replaced in June 1995 by Mr. Tetsuo Sato. Mr. Sato is charged with assisting Alberta government departments in their Hokkaido related activities, and the Alberta and Hokkaido private sectors in identifying potential areas of commercial exchange. Beginning in June 1994, an Alberta official, Mr. Duane Sandberg, was posted to Hokkaido for six months to promote Alberta's interests there.

Volunteerism

A volunteerism agreement was signed in 1990 between Hokkaido and the Wild Rose Foundation to explore the role of volunteers in meeting the social needs of the respective societies. In 1992, Hokkaido sent a volunteer mission to Alberta to study advanced volunteer activities and, in July 1994, a volunteerism mission from Alberta led by the Chairman and Executive Director of the Wild Rose Foundation visited Hokkaido for discussion with Japanese counterparts. Hokkaido has been invited to participate in the 1998 World Volunteerism Conference being hosted by the Wild Rose Foundation.

Sports

Alberta has had a long history of sports exchanges with Hokkaido, the latest of which was the 1994 signing of an exchange agreement between Alberta Community Development Department and Hokkaido Amateur Sports Association. This agreement provided for curling exchanges to take place between Alberta and Hokkaido from 1995 to 1997. Alberta, Hokkaido and Heilongjiang have also been involved in trilateral curling exchanges.

APPENDIX B

HOKKAIDO–ALBERTA: A COMPARISON

Included courtesy of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Note: Some of this information is somewhat dated, although it can still be useful for comparison purposes.

HOKKAIDO–ALBERTA: A Comparison

	Hokkaido	Alberta
Area	83,514 km². This includes the 4,996 km² area of the Northern Territories, which are currently occupied by the Soviet Union. Length of Coastline: 7,734 km. Hokkaido accounts for 22.1 per cent of the total land area of Japan and is the largest of Japan's 47 prefectures.	661,000 km². (6.6 per cent of total Canadian land area including 16,796 km² of inland water.) Alberta is approximately 8 times the size of Hokkaido.
Location	Hokkaido is located off the east coast of the Asian Continent. It is separated from the main island of Honshu by the Tsugaru Strait, faces the Sea of Japan to the West, the Pacific Ocean to the south, and the Okhotsk Sea to the northeast.	Located in Western Canada and shares its western border with British Columbia, its eastern border with Saskatchewan, and its southern border with the United States (state of Montana).
Topography	In central Hokkaido lie the Ishikari Mountains which contain Mt. Asahi-Dake, the highest peak on the island. There are two volcanic zones: the Nasu Volcanic Zone which extends north from Honshu towards the southern part of Hokkaido; and the Chishima Volcanic Zone, cutting into the Ishikari Mountains.	Alberta consists of four regions: the dry, treeless prairie region of southeastern Alberta; the parkland region found predominantly in central Alberta (varies between the flatland of old lake bottoms and rolling landscape with numerous lakes and depressions); the boreal forest region covering the northern half of the province (extensive rivers and lakes); and the Rocky Mountain region west of the plains and bordering British Columbia.
Climate	Ocean currents maintain low temperatures along the coastal areas bordering the Pacific Ocean and the Okhotsk Sea. Ocean currents along the coast of the Sea of Japan maintain higher temperatures. Average annual temperature: 5 to 9°C Highest temperature: 35.4°C (Ashoro) Lowest temperature: –34.7°C (Shimikappu-Chuo) Average annual precipitation: 100 cm	Alberta's climate is characterized by considerable change in temperature between regions and seasons and is moderated by low humidity. Alberta is Canada's sunniest province. Air from the Rocky Mountains often brings warm, dry *chinook* winds to southwestern Alberta. Mean January: –14.7°C (Edmonton) Mean July: 17.5°C (Edmonton) Average annual precipitation: 51 cm

	HOKKAIDO	ALBERTA
Population	**5.6 million** (1982) Density: 71.7 persons per km² (1982)	**2.3 million** (1984) Density: 3.5 persons per km² (1981)
Major Cities	**Sapporo (prefectural capital)** **1,401,757** (1984) Asahikawa – 353,000 (1984) Hakodate – 320,000 (1984) Kushiro – 215,000 (1980) Otaru – 181,000 (1980) Obihiro – 154,000 (1980) Tomakomai – 150,000 (1980) Kitami – 103,000 (1980)	**Edmonton (provincial capital)** **625,000** (1985) Calgary – 625,000 (1985) Lethbridge – 59,900 (1985) Red Deer – 52,600 (1985)
Ethnicity	**The Japanese are regarded as a single ethnic group**, except for the Ainu, an indigenous Caucasoid people who survive in limited numbers in Hokkaido.	**Albertans have a variety of ethnic origins.** The ethnic Japanese population in Alberta is 5,230 (1981).
History	In 1868 the Japanese Government decided it was necessary to develop its northern islands, and a local government was established in Hokkaido. Until then, Hokkaido was a frontier district with few people, living simple lives, mainly by fishing and hunting. The combination of using foreigners to assist with agriculture and land development, well-planned national policies, a certain amount of autonomy from the central government, and the incessant efforts of the people of Hokkaido, resulted in continual progress and an increased standard of living for Hokkaido.	In 1882, Alberta was established as a district of the Northwest Territories. At that time, the Northwest Territory was the region of Canada extending west from the present day province of Manitoba to the Rocky Mountains. Early settlement of the Northwest Territory was based on fur trading, ranching, and crop farming. With the building of the railroad across Canada in 1883, Alberta experienced a settlement boom. Great immigration from Eastern Canada, United States and Europe occurred. To meet the needs of this steady influx of pioneers, Alberta became a province in 1905. Oil, gas, coal, and timber resources have led to further population growth with steadily increasing urbanization and industrialization.
Economy and Industry	**Primary Industries** a) Agriculture – Hokkaido is a major food supplier for Japan. The value of the provincial agriculture output for 1984 reached 1.8 trillion yen ($7.7 billion U.S.). - Main crops are sugar beets, potatoes, wheat, beans, and rice. - Major livestock includes dairy and beef cattle.	a) Agriculture – an industry of major importance to both Alberta and Canada. Alberta's share of Canada's total farm cash receipts is $3.8 billion (1982). - Main crops are wheat, canola, barley, potatoes, vegetables, oats, and sugar beets. - Major livestock includes cattle, hogs, and poultry.

HOKKAIDO	ALBERTA
b) Forestry – forestry stands in Hokkaido are 21 per cent of national total. The gross value of forestry production is 128.8 billion yen (1982) ($644 million U.S.). Recently production has been decreasing because of diminishing utilization and falling prices.	b) Forestry – 349,000 km² or 53 per cent of Alberta is covered by forest. 234,000 km² or 35 per cent of this is potentially productive forest land. Forestry is not a fully exploited industry in Alberta.
c) Fisheries – the value of Hokkaido fishery production is 397.8 billion yen (1984) ($1.7 billion U.S.). At 14.5 per cent the province holds the greatest share of the total Japanese fishing industry. However, since the 200 mile fishery zones were announced, fishery operations in the northern Pacific have been severely limited and the industry is undergoing hardship.	c) Fisheries – although Alberta has over 150 lakes in which commercial fishing is permitted, only about 90 are fished during a given year. Although the value of fisheries production is minimal (approximately $3 million annually), the industry is an important source of income for several remote communities in northern Alberta.
d) Energy – Hokkaido produced 16.4 million metric tonnes of coal in 1985. Coal is Hokkaido's major energy source. Other resources include hydraulic and geothermal energy and some natural gas.	d) Energy – Alberta is the foremost energy resource province in Canada. At $27.3 billion, Alberta ranks first (60 per cent) in Canada's value of mineral production (1985). - natural gas – 99.1 billion m³ - oil –75.6 million m³ - electricity – 30,517 GW.H - coal – 27.7 million metric tonnes - sulphur – 5.4 million metric tonnes
Secondary Industries a) Manufacturing – the major manufacturing industries are those that utilize the ample natural resources on the island, e.g., steel manufacturing, foodstuffs, lumber and lumber production, pulp and paper production, and ceramic and earthenware production. In recent years, improvement of roads and ports has accelerated the introduction of additional industries such as oil refineries and electric parts. Other manufacturing industries include computer software, clothing, and handicrafts. In 1984, Hokkaido accounted for 1.6 per cent of Japan's total manufacturing net production.	a) Manufacturing – most manufacturing in Alberta is either to process local raw materials or engage in custom manufacture and fabrication for the resource development and construction sectors. The estimated value of shipments in all manufacturing industries in Alberta was $16.1 billion, or 7 per cent of total Canadian shipments.
b) Construction – Hokkaido has shown an annual growth ratio exceeding the national average each year since 1980.	b) Construction – Alberta's value of construction work is $11.8 billion, or 18 per cent of the Canadian total (1985).

	HOKKAIDO	ALBERTA
	Tertiary Industries a) Tourism – Hokkaido, known for its natural beauty, attracts many tourists both from Japan and abroad. Major attractions include the annual Sapporo Snow Festival, with its large displays of carved snow sculptures, and the Summer Festival in Sapporo's Odori Park.	a) Tourism is also an important industry for Alberta. Annual revenues are in the order of $2 billion. The industry employs about 80,000 Albertans.
	b) Transportation – despite the difficulties of the terrain, rail transport (mainly passenger) is highly developed. The world's longest tunnel links Honshu, the main island, to Hokkaido. Hokkaido has one international airport, at Chitose.	b) Transportation. Canadian Pacific Railway and Canadian National Railway lines provide access east and west for Alberta's natural resources, agricultural, and manufactured products to international markets. Alberta also has over 100,000 km of pipelines to carry oil and gas to internal and external markets. Alberta's two largest urban centres, Calgary and Edmonton, each have international airports. The province also has an extensive system of modern highways which facilitate the movement of people and products.
	Employment Statistics The total labor force in Hokkaido is 2,598,312 people (1980). There is presently a shift in the labor force away from primary industries into secondary and tertiary industries.	The total labor force in Alberta is 1,249,000 people (1985). The participation rate is 71.9 per cent (the highest in Canada).
Political Structure	Japanese political structure differs from Canada's in several ways. Consensus decision-making is the key element as contrasted with charismatic individual leadership in Canada. The Prime Minister is indirectly elected by the rank and file of the government party. The prefectures directly elect their governor every four years; the governor is elected to that position regardless of the standing of his supporters in the prefectural assembly. Presently, the Governor of Hokkaido is Takahiro Yokomichi. He was elected in April 1983. Yokomichi ran as an independent candidate; however, he was strongly supported by the Japanese Socialist Party (JSP) as a result of strong historical family ties to the JSP.	Follows the traditions of British parliamentary democracy. Legislative authority rests with a legislative assembly consisting of 83 elected representatives and a Lieutenant Governor, the Queen's representative in Alberta. The executive consists of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, a body composed of the Lieutenant Governor, the Premier, and the cabinet. The Premier and his cabinet ministers are all elected Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and are responsible to the assembly. MLAs are individually elected. **For more information on Alberta's special relationships in the Asia-Pacific region, contact:** **Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs** **(403) 427-6543**

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APPENDIX C

CONNECTIONS: NEWS OF THE ALBERTA–HOKKAIDO 15TH ANNIVERSARY

Included courtesy of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs.

CONNECTIONS

NEWS OF THE ALBERTA - HOKKAIDO 15TH ANNIVERSARY

February 1995 Issue 1

15 Years of Friendship

1995 marks the 15th anniversary of the twinning of the Province of Alberta and Hokkaido Prefecture in northern Japan. This special relationship began in 1972 with an invitation from the Governor of Hokkaido for Alberta to attend an international conference of northern region countries. At that conference, areas of mutual interest were identified and the first education, culture and sports exchanges between the two provinces were initiated, including the Alberta-Hokkaido Dairy Exchange and Hokkaido Women's Association exchanges. Much of the credit for the these early exchanges must go to two pioneers of the special relationship, Mrs. Laverna Salloum of Edmonton, and Mr. Jay Takahashi of the Hokkaido government.

Between 1972 and 1980, the number and types of exchanges increased leading to the 1980 agreement which formalized Alberta's relationship with Hokkaido.

The special relationship has made it possible for the people of Alberta and Hokkaido to share their cultures and deepen their understanding of one another. Exchange activities have broadened into the areas of volunteerism, science and technology, medicine and research and, in recent years, both Hokkaido and Alberta have been able to focus increasingly on the commercial opportunities arising from the strong ties of the original exchange.

The large number of ordinary citizens who have been able to participate in the Alberta-Hokkaido special relationship have made our twinning a model for international relationships. Also unique are the many municipal twinnings (see box this page) that followed the initial twinning of the two provinces. While not officially affiliated, Edmonton and Sapporo have also been active partners in a number of initiatives including the Winternet pilot project. The 15th anniversary will give the people of Hokkaido and Alberta an opportunity to commemorate our twinning and forge even stronger links to take us into the next phase of our relationship.

Hokkaido's preparations for the commemoration of our 15th anniversary are well underway (see story, page 2) and Alberta is also planning a number of activities here and in Hokkaido, most of which are centred around established exchange activities. They include an Alberta 'friendship mission' to Hokkaido, a presentation of gift books to Hokkaido schools twinned with Alberta, participation in a wheelchair marathon, a photo panel exhibit promoting Alberta tourism, and trade and investment seminars.

Most of Alberta's events, including the friendship mission to Hokkaido, will take place in September 1995. The people and the Government of Hokkaido look forward to welcoming representatives from Alberta sister towns and community organizations, business people, and private citizens.

Alberta Education and Community Development are planning to present twinned schools in

Continued on Page 4

Town twinnings have played an integral part in Alberta's long affiliation with Hokkaido. Today, 8 Alberta municipalities are twinned with Hokkaido counterparts and our relationship has flourished due to the commitment that these 'sisters' have shown in undertaking homestay, cultural, student and staff exchange programs.

Alberta - Hokkaido Twin Towns

Wetaskiwin - Ashoro
Camrose - Kamifurano
Stettler - Okoppe
Rocky Mountain House - Kamikawa
Stony Plain - Shikaoi
Barrhead - Tokoro
Lacombe - Rikubetsu
Canmore - Higashikawa

In July 1995, Stony Plain will host the 4th Annual Twin Town Conference. Coming issues of *Connections* will look at preparations for the conference as well as anniversary-year activities in each community.

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Hokkaido Finalizes Plans to say "Hai" to Alberta

Representatives from the Hokkaido government were in Alberta in early February putting the finishing touches on an exposition and trade show that will coincide with Edmonton's 1995 Klondike Days festivities. The "Say Hai to Japan" event will be held at the Northlands Agricom from July 20 to 29 and Hokkaido's new governor will lead a 300-member "friendship" mission to Alberta to coincide with the Northlands show. The delegation will be made up of business people, cultural performers and artists, government and sister town representatives, and private citizens.

Ms. Keiko Yoshida, chief of the international relations division of the Hokkaido government and a 5-member delegation met with Northlands, Canada Customs representatives, and provincial officials to finalize arrangements for the event, which will form the centrepiece of Hokkaido's anniversary activities in Alberta.

There will be cultural performances and demonstrations, traditional crafts and food, as well as modern products. Albertans will be able to sample Japanese beer and sake and sing a little karaoke in addition to seeing displays featuring everything from crystal computer monitors to pollution-free incinerators.

In organizing the Klondike Days Exposition and Trade Show, the Hokkaido government hopes to introduce not only their culture but the wide variety of high-quality products Hokkaido produces for export.

Hokkaido Builders Interested in Alberta Products

Thirty-two Hokkaido builders and distributors of construction materials spent four days in Alberta in January to familiarize themselves with the wide range of building products available from local companies. The mission, organized by Mr. Shu Otani of Housing Yamachi, a Hokkaido-based distuributor of Alberta building products, was the third to the province and the biggest of its kind to date.

Recently, building products have emerged as a key sector of opportunity for Alberta exporters to Hokkaido. A mini trade fair for the visiting builders, organized by Alberta Economic Development and Tourism, gave representatives from 14 local businesses the opportunity to promote products such as kitchen countertops and bricks, on their home turf. The Hokkaido delegation was impressed with the fair's format and felt that products with a good track record here would also be successful back home.

The builders' itinerary also included a tour of the Alta-Therm Industries plant southeast of Edmonton. There is a strong interest in aluminium and fibreglass windows in Hokkaido where the winter climate is similar to Alberta's. Alta-Therm is the only manufacturer of fibreglass window frames in western Canada and the company's business with Japanese clients has been expanding over the last few years. The interest generated by the Hokkaido builders delegation will help to increase the company's exposure in northern Japan.

Ainu Art Exhibit Destined for Alberta

An exhibition of Ainu and modern Japanese art will be shown in Alberta during 1995 to commemorate the 15th anniversary. The exhibit, the biggest of its kind to come to the province, will feature the paintings and sculpture of 40 artists as well as traditional handicrafts and artifacts. The government of Hokkaido has sponsored the exhibit which can be seen in Edmonton at the **Provincial Museum of Alberta** from **May 18 to August 13** and in Calgary at the **Glenbow Museum** from **September 2 to October 29.**

Keiko Yoshida makes a presentation to Northlands Park President, Dr. Robert Westbury during her recent visit to Edmonton

Photo: Edmonton Northlands

By Leanne Pawluski

Strengthening the Ties Between Alberta and Hokkaido

It is with good reason that we celebrate the 15th anniversary of our twinning relationship with Hokkaido. Such agreements promote friendship, cultural understanding, economic benefits and overall growth.

From my position as a local French teacher 10 years ago to my current position as owner and manager of an educational tour company, I can say that things have certainly developed in ways I never imagined possible. Shifting from teacher to entrepreneur was a major turning point in my life and one which I feel occurred thanks to the strong ties Alberta has with Hokkaido.

Hokkaido students enjoy sightseeing in Banff on a Canadian Language Services summer program.

Photo: Leanne Pawluski

I first became aware of our sister province through my teaching experiences at D.S. MacKenzie Junior High School which is twinned with Fushimi Junior High School in Sapporo. This was real grassroots contact and no direct economic gains came from the twinning experience, just the making of some great friends.

In time, I took a job teaching English for a language school in Sapporo where, surprisingly, I met up with eight other University of Alberta graduates. We, as teachers, helped to fill Hokkaido's need of native English speakers. This afforded us the opportunity to provide a service as well as learn about a different culture. From the host of activities I participated in, I say with great sincerity that we are very fortunate to have this twinning opportunity. The kindness, graciousness, and hospitality that my host province showed me for three years left such an impression on me that my goal became clear. I wanted to contribute to the strengthening of the bridge between Alberta and Hokkaido.

Now, re-established in Edmonton, I offer Alberta-based language programs to Hokkaido institutions that I worked for in the past. The spin-offs are numerous: jobs created for fellow Albertans, use of Alberta industries and services, jobs created for Hokkaido residents, and a safe, secure destination for students seeking study-abroad programs. Clearly, we are all winners in this relationship. We are the bridge. Many thanks can be given to the earlier personal contact I had during my Edmonton teaching days. I hope Alberta continues to focus on all aspects of our special relationship with Hokkaido, especially at the grassroots level. Those planted seeds will be harvested in due time.

In closing, I would like to say that I'm happy to join other Albertans who look beyond borders for opportunities. The doors have opened up and the world is our playground should we so desire it to be.

Leanne Pawluski is a graduate of the University of Alberta with Bachelor's degrees in Education and Science. Following her work at a private language school in Sapporo, she taught at HokkaiGakuen University for 2 years. On her return to Alberta in 1992, she established Canadian Language Services to provide intensive English language courses for Hokkaido university students. She also designs and runs specialized training and cultural programs for specific interest groups.

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Albertans Invited to Participate in Ice Sculpture Competitions

Nine Albertans, including reigning Canadian ice-carving champion Stephen Chung, will represent Alberta and Canada at two international ice sculpture competitions in Hokkaido this month.

The group will travel first to the town of Higashikawa which is celebrating its centennial with an International Ice and Snow Arts festival and then to the city of Asahikawa for the annual World Ice Sculptors Competition. Carving teams from around the world will participate in both events.

Chung, and partner Donald Long, will create two large sculptures formed from 20 blocks of ice covering a space of 10 square feet. The team has a different design for each competition, one of bears catching salmon and the other of wolves. Joining Chung and Long in competition will be Frances Cuyler, Marjorie Davies and Sandra Segal, an Edmonton team that will create an Anne of Green Gables snow sculpture.

Pat Galbraith of Edmonton has been invited to serve as a judge at both competitions and a three-man team from Canmore, including Deputy Mayor Garreth Thompson, will produce an ice carving for the Higashikawa festival. Higashikawa and Canmore have been twin towns since 1989.

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Hokkaido with copies of the Canadian Encyclopedia and works by Alberta authors. At present, there are 21 Alberta schools and six post-secondary institutions twinned with Hokkaido counterparts.

Alberta participation in the Hamanasu Wheelchair Marathon Tournament is a special anniversary event. Alberta Community Development and the Government of Hokkaido have arranged to send two wheelchair athletes and a manager to participate in the event which will be held in Sapporo on June 18, 1995.

In addition to these activities, a number of Alberta students and athletes will have the opportunity to travel to Hokkaido during this anniversary year as participants of ongoing exchange activities. This includes a visit to Hokkaido by an Alberta curling team in late October/early November 1995.

Connections is your link to the Alberta-Hokkaido 15th anniversary. It will keep you updated on ongoing activities as well as the special events scheduled to take place over the next year.

This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the International Division of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs (FIGA). Contributions are welcome and inquiries can be made to Michelle Cook, International Division, FIGA, Suite 2200, 10025 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 1S6. Tel: (403) 427-6543, Fax: (403) 427-0699.

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CONNECTIONS

NEWS OF THE ALBERTA - HOKKAIDO 15TH ANNIVERSARY

April 1995 Issue 2

Exhibit a Unique Introduction to Ainu Culture

An exhibition of Ainu art and artifacts, showing at the Provincial Museum of Alberta in Edmonton, May 18 to August 13, 1995, and the Glenbow Museum in Calgary from September 2 to October 29, 1995, will introduce Albertans to the culture and traditional lifestyle of a unique group of aboriginal people from our twin province of Hokkaido.

The exhibit, which Premier Klein will open officially on May 16, is sponsored by the Government of Hokkaido in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the Alberta-Hokkaido twinning and consists of works on loan from the Historical Museum of Hokkaido. In addition to the Ainu show, a modern Japanese art exhibit will also be on display.

The Ainu people originally inhabited a vast area which included the northern islands of Japan, the Kuril Islands, southern Sakhakin Island, and parts of the Asian mainland. Their unique culture began to develop around the 12th century, and was based on a lifestyle of fishing, hunting and gathering, and trade with neighbouring peoples. From this lifestyle the Ainu developed unique religious ceremonies, styles of dress, and decorative designs. Their culture would dominate the region until the beginning the 17th century, when Japanese culture began to expand northward.

Today, the Ainu have largely assimilated into mainstream Japanese society. For many years, the extinction of Ainu culture was a very real threat, but it has proven resilient. Recently there has been a resurgence in interest among younger Ainu in the traditional arts, folklore, language, and ways of life of their ancestors. The exhibition draws on two main sources of material to convey an accurate picture of traditional

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News

Klein to Host Welcome Reception

Premier Ralph Klein will host the Welcome Reception planned for the incoming Hokkaido "Wing of Friendship" delegation in July. The reception is scheduled to take place the evening of July 26, 1995 at the Provincial Museum of Alberta. The Hokkaido delegation will arrive in Alberta on July 25. Those interested in attending the reception will be able to purchase tickets in advance. Order forms for tickets will be included in the June issue of Connections and will also be available from Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs (FIGA). For further information, contact: The International Division, FIGA (403) 427-6543.

Dates Confirmed for 1995 Twin Town Conference

The 4th annual Twin Town Conference will be held on July 30-31, 1995. Stony Plain is hosting this year's event which begins with a welcoming reception on the evening of the 30th, followed by a day-long conference on July 31. The conference will coincide with the 10th anniversary of Stony Plain's twinning with Shikaoi.

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Educational Exchange A Cornerstone of Twinning

Educational exchange programs have been an integral part of the Alberta-Hokkaido twinning since its inception in 1980, and have given many citizens of Alberta and Hokkaido the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of our respective cultures. The value of these experiences should not be underestimated. The close ties and skills developed through educational exchanges form the basis for the effective international working relationships which are so vital in today's global economy. Today, thanks to our twinning, there are more opportunities than ever before for interchange between Alberta and Hokkaido.

Thirteen Alberta schools and six post-secondary institutions throughout the province are twinned with counterparts in Hokkaido, and involved in diverse activities ranging from pen-pal relationships to cooperation on scientific research.

In the area of post-secondary education, cooperative agreements between twinned academic institutions have led to the development of joint study programs in Japanese and English language training, building and construction techniques, medicine and health sciences, agriculture, engineering, and Canadian Studies. A number of Hokkaido post-secondary students have been given the opportunity to study in Alberta on Minister of Advanced Education International Education scholarships. One scholarship is granted annually and these awards have been used in a number of areas ranging from anthropology to civil engineering. Reciprocally, the Hokkaido Socio-Cultural Study Program gives one Albertan a year the chance to pursue studies in Japan (see story page 3).

Exchanges are extensive at the junior and senior high school level as well. Each year, a number of Albertans are given the opportunity to work as English teachers in Hokkaido public schools through the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program.

Reciprocally, the Hokkaido Board of Education posts two Japanese language teachers to Alberta senior high schools. This program has contributed significantly to the development of a Japanese language curriculum for Alberta schools. In 1995, the towns of Rocky Mountain House and Medicine Hat are playing host to these language teachers. Alberta high school students interested in improving their Japanese language skills through complete immersion can participate in a new exchange program which will send them to Hokkaido for four months.

In addition to language exchanges, our twinning has provided opportunities in other areas as well. Each year the Hokkaido Shimbun Press invites a group of Alberta students to attend the International Junior Art Camp in Sapporo. Over the years, groups of junior high school students from Calgary, Grande Prairie, Medicine Hat, Spruce Grove, Fort McMurray, Red Deer, and Edmonton have participated in this summer camp. Next year, a delegation of 15 high school students and chaperones from Alberta will be invited to perform folk arts at the 1996 Cultural Festival in Hokkaido.

The School Partnership Program, which was established as a result of Alberta's special relationship with Hokkaido, and other provinces elsewhere in Asia, helps Alberta schools to find a sister-school for a long-term relationship around which the students, teachers, and school community can organize various international activities.

If you are interested in learning more about the Alberta-Hokkaido exchange programs and other international exchange opportunities available to students and teachers at the junior and senior high school level, please call, write or fax National and International Education, Alberta Education, 10 Floor, Devonian Building, 11160 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0L2. Telephone: 427-2035, Fax: 422-3014.

U. of C. Education Students Prepare for Hokkaido Exchange

On May 25, 1995, ten 3rd-year students from the Faculty of Education will travel to Japan for 5 weeks as part of an education exchange program between the University of Calgary and the Hokkaido University of Education. Reciprocal exchanges began taking place following the signing of a formal agreement between the two institutions in 1990. Dr. Richard Hirabayashi, who will lead this year's trip, says that in addition to the student exchanges, the program has been expanded to include exchanges of professors and has also led to collaborative research in such areas as outdoor education and

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Hands-on Experience - The Hokkaido Socio-Cultural Study Program

By Bob Arbuthnott

Alberta and Hokkaido have had an official sister relationship since October 17, 1980 when the Governor of Hokkaido, Naohiro Dogakinai, and Premier of Alberta, Peter Lougheed signed a "Proclamation of Friendship and Affiliation." Throughout the years, this friendship has grown and matured in the cultural, educational, and business realms. The relationship deepened in 1992 when the Hokkaido government instituted the Hokkaido Socio-Cultural Study Program which granted a scholarship to one Albertan annually to pursue studies in Japanese language and hands-on experience in the individual's own area of knowledge and expertise.

The scholarship has three main criteria that qualify people to apply. First, the individual must be competent in speaking, listening, reading, and writing Japanese. Participants must also be under 35 years of age and hold a university degree.

Up to the present, there have been three participants in the program. The fourth recipient, Tara Hermann, has just left for Hokkaido where she will study Tokugawa-period literature. The third recipient, Steve Fylypchuk, has just returned from a successful year of studying business and economics at Hokkai Gakuen University in Sapporo. The second recipient of the award, Brent Waite, spent his time in Hokkaido researching agriculture technology transfer and the structure of the agricultural industry in Hokkaido and Japan.

I was the first Albertan to be given this opportunity from the Hokkaido government. Due to personal and professional time constraints, I spent only seven months in Hokkaido but during that time, I studied Japanese for six months and was a research student at NTT Hokkaido (Nippon Telephone and Telegraph Company) for one month. My background consists of degrees in psychology and social work from the Universities of Saskatchewan and Calgary, followed by eight years of work in the career planning and human resource field. As a result of my previous experience, much of my research/study time at NTT was spent in the personnel area. I also visited NTT's clients around Hokkaido to observe first hand the diverse nature of the company. For the first three months of my stay in Japan, I was most fortunate to have an incredibly accommodating homestay in Sapporo. For the final four months of the program, I moved into my own apartment closer to school.

A year after my return to Alberta, Brent Waite and I, along with a Japanese partner from Hokkaido, entered into a business relationship together, starting our own Calgary-based consulting firm, Tozai Communication. We use our experience and knowledge in cross-cultural communications to promote and facilitate business, cultural and educational development and exchange between Alberta and Hokkaido.

One of our first projects, on behalf of an exhibit planning and design company in Japan, was to assist in the acquisition of artifacts and displays for a cattle museum in Maesawa-cho in Iwate Prefecture. My understanding is that this museum is the first of its kind in the world! Part of our work for the Museum required finding a highland cow from Alberta for mounting in a life-size display at the museum. Acquiring a cow and shipping the processed skin to Japan has been the most unusual contract we have had to date!

Both Brent and I had been to Japan on numerous occasions for work, pleasure, and study before receiving scholarships through the Hokkaido Socio-Cultural Study Program. Although we were both familiar with many aspects of the culture, language, and country, we appreciated the unique opportunity the program offered us to learn more about Japan in general and our sister province of Hokkaido specifically.

Information about the Hokkaido Socio-Cultural Study Program and application forms can be obtained from Greg Banfield, Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development Telephone: (403) 427-0313, Fax: (403) 427-4185.

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Ainu life: handicrafts and household items, such as wooden praying sticks, and clothing made from fur or tree-bark, and Ainu-e paintings. These paintings, some painted by Japanese government survey teams in the 18th century, depict scenes of everyday life, such as hunting, fishing for salmon, and the Ainu Bear Festival.

For public viewing times and further information on the Hokkaido exhibitions, please call the Provincial Museum of Alberta (403) 453-9100, or the Glenbow Museum, (403) 237-8988.

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kindergarten education.

The student exchange program, which is partially funded by Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development, allows participants from both countries to observe teaching in a different cultural setting. Alberta students travelling to Hokkaido are split up among the five campuses of the Hokkaido University of Education. They attend lectures and visit Japanese public schools to observe classes and discuss education experiences with Japanese teachers. Participants from both Hokkaido and Alberta have homestays in their host countries and are also given the opportunity to participate in local cultural events and community activities.

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Stony Plain is planning anniversary celebrations for the evening of July 31. Delegates, including Shikaoi's Mayor Okano as well as other representatives from Hokkaido twin towns, are expected to attend the conference.

New Hokkaido Governor Elected

Mr. Tatsuya Hori was elected Governor of Hokkaido on April 9, 1995. One of Mr. Hori's official duties as Governor will be to lead this summer's 300-member "Wing of Friendship" mission to Alberta for the 15th anniversary activities. Mr. Hori, a former Vice Governor, takes over from Takahiro Yokomichi.

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CONNECTIONS

NEWS OF THE ALBERTA - HOKKAIDO 15TH ANNIVERSARY

June 1995 Issue 3

Twin Town Conference Update

Plans are well underway for the 4th annual twin town conference being hosted by Stony Plain on July 30-31,1995. The conference will be attended by representatives of all eight Hokkaido twinned towns, including the mayors of Okoppe, Kamikawa, Kamifurano, Rikubetsu, and Shikaoi. Representatives of the Hokkaido Canada Society will also participate.

The focus of this year's discussions will be "For Better Partnerships-Challenges and Future Directions." Participants will also be able to enjoy demonstrations of wool spinning, watercolour painting, teddy-bear making, and local entertainment as well as the chance to fly remote controlled airplanes.

The Honourable Ken Rostad, Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs, and mayors and representatives from the Alberta twin towns will be on hand to welcome the Japanese visitors.

In addition to conference activities, both visitors and local conference participants will be able to join in a barbecue to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the twinning of Stony Plain and Shikaoi. Anniversary events will take place the evening of July 31 following the conference.

For more information on the twin town conference and Stony Plain's 10th anniversary events, please contact Diane Barlow, Town of Stony Plain, tel: (403) 963-2151.

Say "Hai" to Business with Japan

A "Say Hai to Japan" business seminar, coinciding with the Hokkaido show at Klondike Days, has been organized to help Alberta companies learn more about two-way business opportunities with Hokkaido.

The day-long seminar, scheduled to take place on Wednesday, July 19, 1995 starting at 11:30 a.m., will feature a keynote address by Alberta's former Agent General in Japan, Ivan Bumstead. He will address the topics of Alberta's trade with Japan, the changing image of Japan, the strong Yen, and challenges to exporting. Also on the agenda are presentations on the business environment in Japan, Canadian success stories, and business opportunities for Canadian companies. There will also be an opportunity for roundtable discussions. Representatives from a number of Japanese companies will participate.

The seminar, which begins with a luncheon, will lead into the official opening ceremonies of the "Say Hai to Japan" Trade and Cultural Exhibition, culminating in a reception and sneak preview of the exhibition. It will take place at the World Trade Center, Northlands Agricom. Tickets for World

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Hokkaido Volunteer Mission Travels to Alberta

On June 7, 1995, a 10-member volunteer mission from Hokkaido, lead by Mr. Kenjiro Sakazaki, Director of the Hokkaido Volunteer Promotion Association, arrived in Calgary to attend the Wild Rose Foundation's *Vitalize '95* Conference for Volunteers.

The mission was part of the Volunteer Exchange Program that was signed in 1992 between Hokkaido Prefecture and the Province of Alberta's Wild Rose Foundation.

Youth Volunteerism and Volunteer Centres were the two study areas chosen by Hokkaido for this particular mission. Over the eight day schedule the delegation participated in *Vitalize* workshops targeted to their chosen study areas and travelled to Edmonton for comprehensive tours of volunteer centres and agencies involved in youth volunteerism. Before their departure on Wednesday, June 14, the delegation also had the opportunity to learn how Alberta utilizes the services of volunteers in hospitals and in the care of the aged.

The delegation, made up of representatives from volunteer organizations in several Hokkaido cities and towns, was impressed with the organization of *Vitalize 95*. "They were particularly pleased with the opportunity it gave them to exchange ideas and information with local Alberta volunteers at a grassroots level." said Toshiyuki Kuroda, the Hokkaido Government Representative in Alberta who accompanied the delegation.

For more information about the mission or the volunteer exchange program, contact the Wild Rose Foundation at (403) 422-9305.

Wetaskiwin Prepares to "Park Golf"

The City of Wetaskiwin and the Wetaskiwin Ashoro Friendship Society are planning a community celebration in recognition of the 5th Anniversary of twinning with the Town of Ashoro in the Tokachi district of Hokkaido. This special celebration will take place at Wetaskiwin's new By the Lake Park on July 29, 1995 starting at 10:00 a.m.

On July 28, residents of Wetaskiwin will welcome guests from Ashoro into their homes for a four day homestay visit. In addition, members of the official delegation attending provincial 15th Anniversary activities in Edmonton will travel to Wetaskiwin on July 29 to take part in 5th anniversary celebrations. Twenty-six guests from Ashoro are confirmed to attend the festivities. Included in the group are five members from the Ashoro Taiko Troupe, who will be adding a unique cultural aspect to the celebrations by giving a special drumming demonstration.

The program of events will also include official greetings and entertainment from local artists. To commemorate the 5th anniversary a plaque will be unveiled and five trees planted to represent the five years of friendship between Wetaskiwin and Ashoro. The plaque will be placed near Wetaskiwin's new Park Golf golf course.

Wetaskiwin is the first and only community outside Japan to have Park Golf. The golf course, situated in By the Lake Park, will be officially opened July 1, 1995. Ashoro provided the blueprints for the golf course and will present a number of special Park Golf golf clubs to the City of Wetaskiwin, so that anyone wishing to try this new form of golf will have a chance to do so. Members of the Ashoro delegation will be giving a demonstration on how to golf on the new course.

Following the official ceremonies and Park Golf demonstration on July 29, a luncheon will be held for dignitaries and guests from Ashoro. Tickets will be available for purchase for those interested in attending the luncheon.

The City of Wetaskiwin and the Wetaskiwin Ashoro Friendship Society invite all Albertans to visit thecommunity and participate in the 5th anniversary celebrations on July 29, 1995.

For further information and for inquiries about tickets to the luncheon, please contact Diane Roth, tel: (w) 352-5252; fax: 352-1700.

Life in a Twin Town Higashikawa

By Brenda Hanchar
Canadian Representative, Japan Exchange and Teaching Program

As part of an exchange program to bring native English speakers to teach English language and promote western culture in Japanese schools and the community, I was invited by the Japanese Ministry of Education to live and work in the Hokkaido town of Higashikawa which has been twinned with Canmore, Alberta since 1989.

Employed by the town of Higashikawa, through this exchange program, I have been responsible for assisting in teaching English at the junior high school level, instructing adult English conversation classes, and participating in cultural activities with elementary school aged children. I have also had the opportunity to engage in local exchange activities, as well as be utilized as a cultural resource in the community.

My role as a cultural resource in the town of Higashikawa has enabled me to become more directly involved with the community. I have been able to conduct a broad spectrum of cultural events for citizens of all ages ranging from instructing cooking classes on western cuisine to teaching country line dancing. In addition, I have also implemented volunteer programs. One program, in particular, was designed to increase the level of interaction between the foreign community and Japanese students with mental and/or physical handicaps.

I have also had the opportunity to participate in local festivals, study Japanese flower arrangement and tea ceremony, practice taiko drumming, and learn how to prepare a traditional Japanese meal. These activities, in addition to my continued efforts to learn Japanese, have been integral in helping me to become involved in the community. It is through these experiences that I have been able to learn about Japanese culture. In exchange, I hope to share my experiences and understanding of Japan on my return to Alberta.

The town of Higashikawa has been taking great measures to achieve of what the Japanese call "internationalization." In Higashikawa's pursuit of a more globally conscious community, the town became twinned with a town sharing many similarities —Canmore, Alberta. Thus, I have also been fortunate to be involved in various exchange activities between the two towns including the continuous exchange of pen-pal letters and student artwork. In addition, I have also enjoyed acting as a liaison during sister town exchanges to Higashikawa.

The official twinning of Canmore and Higashikawa began July 12, 1989. Considering the recent formalization of this relationship, I am encouraged by the breadth and depth of the exchange activities pursued thus far. I believe that through the establishment of exchange activities at the grassroots level, a meaningful twin town relationship can be achieved. I hope that Higashikawa and Canmore will continue in their endeavours to involve their community's citizens in the development of this relationship as well pursue new areas of interest to build a strong and secure relationship for the future.

Governor's Program Confirmed

Newly-elected Governor of Hokkaido, Tatsuya Hori, will visit Edmonton, Calgary, Stony Plain, and Lethbridge during his upcoming mission to Alberta, July 25-31. The governor, who is leading the 300-member "Wing of Friendship" mission, will be accompanied by his wife. In addition to participating in events coinciding with Hokkaido's Trade Fair and Cultural exhibition at Klondike Days, the Governor will co-host a reception with Premier Klein on July 26 at the Provincial Museum of Alberta to commemorate the 15th anniversary.

The Governor will travel to Calgary to address the Calgary Chamber of Commerce on July 27. He will continue on to Lethbridge to meet with the Japanese community and Lethbridge University officials. (Lethbridge University is twinned with HokkaiGakkuen University in Sapporo.) Governor Hori will wrap up his mission by attending the twin town conference in Stony Plain on July 30-31 before returning to Hokkaido.

continued from Page 1

Trade Center members are $85, and for non-members, $95. *For more information on the business seminar, and the Hokkaido trade and cultural exhibit, contact Kent McMullen, World Trade Center Edmonton, (403) 471-7283.*

Plans are also being finalized for a similar trade and investment seminar to be held in Calgary. The seminar, which is being organized by Alberta Economic Development and Tourism, in cooperation with the Government of Hokkaido and with assistance from the World Trade Center Edmonton, will be held on Friday, July 21, 1995 at the Ports of Call Hotel beginning at 9:15 a.m.

For more information, contact Doug Neil, (403) 297-6284, or Barry Salter, (403) 427-4809, Alberta Economic Development and Tourism.

Connections is your link to the Alberta-Hokkaido 15th anniversary. It will keep you updated on ongoing activities as well as the special events scheduled to take place over the next year.

This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the International Division of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs (FIGA). Contributions are welcome and inquiries can be made to Michelle Cook, International Division, FIGA, Suite 2200, 10025 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 1S6. Tel: (403) 427-6543, Fax: (403) 427-0699.

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ALBERTA HOKKAIDO 15th Anniversary

CONNECTIONS

NEWS OF THE ALBERTA - HOKKAIDO 15TH ANNIVERSARY

August 1995 Issue 4

Hokkaido Governor Leads Mission to Alberta

Alberta and Hokkaido recently celebrated the 15th anniversary of their sister province relationship. Anniversary celebrations were highlighted by the Governor of Hokkaido's visit to Alberta from July 25 to July 31. While festivities were underway at the "Say HAI to Japan" exhibit at the Edmonton Klondike Days Exposition, the "friendship mission" focused on furthering economic and business cooperation between the two provinces.

Festivities began at Edmonton's International Airport when Governor Tatsuya Hori arrived with 300 visitors from Hokkaido, including the Speaker of Hokkaido's Assembly, business executives, government officials, and tourists. Members of the Japanese Canadian Community and representatives of the Alberta twinned towns, came out to extend Alberta's hospitality. Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Ken Rostad was also present.

While the friendship mission furthered social, educational and cultural ties, its business members met with their Alberta counterparts, including the Alberta Chamber of Commerce and the Calgary Chamber of Commerce. Representatives of the Hokkaido Chamber of Commerce took part in the business meetings which were kicked off by Governor Hori. Further engagements during the six day mission included courtesy calls on Lieutenant Governor Gordon Towers, Mayor Jan Reimer and Mayor Al Duerr. Visiting delegates attended a dinner hosted by Governor Hori for the Japanese Canadian Community and a luncheon co-hosted by the Lethbridge Japanese Community and the University of Lethbridge.

Governor and Premier Discuss Business

Premier Klein and Governor Hori discussed the long-term directions of the Alberta-Hokkaido relationship during their meeting at the Legislature. They agreed that the economic dimension of the relationship should receive greater focus in the future.

In view of the success to date in introducing Alberta housing and building products to Hokkaido, Premier Klein asked that members of this Alberta industry be introduced to key agencies in the Hokkaido public housing sector. Governor Hori confirmed Hokkaido's interest and support for commercial transactions in the future. Representatives of Hokkaido's housing industry joined their counterparts from other sectors of the Hokkaido business community on the mission to explore future commercial opportunities.

Hokkaido's electrical

continued on Page 4

Alberta Business Alive and Well in Hokkaido

Japan is a major export market for Alberta, second only to the U.S. and Hokkaido plays a prominent role in that trading relationship. Current Alberta exports to Hokkadio are estimated to be in the range of $150-180 million per year. Major product lines include coal, wood products, cereals and fertilizers.

As well as being an important market in its own right, Hokkaido can serve as a entree to the larger Japanese market. (Alberta exports of beef to Japan, now valued at over $25 million annually, began with initial sales to Hokkaido.) The rather daunting prospect of entering the huge Japanese national market can be ameliorated for Alberta businesses by starting out in Hokkaido. Advantages of doing so include the relatively small scale of the Hokkaido economy and population, similarities in geography, climate and its recent pioneering history. Familiarity with Alberta as a result of the 15 years of sister province activities can also serve to give Alberta companies a head start.

Alberta success stories include the experience of Alta-Therm Industries which signed an exclusive distribution agreement with Yamachi Housing in November of 1993. In addition to growing sales of windows, Alta-Therm is now also supplying ready-to-hang door units to its Japanese partner. Old Hippy Wood Products, another Edmonton company, has set up a profitable joint venture selling its furniture in Sapporo. After 15 years of relations with Hokkaido, commercial opportunities are in the spotlight.

Leaders Meet at Northern Forum

Alberta will participate in the Second Northern Forum Conference in Sapporo, Hokkaido in September. The conference will gather international leaders to deliberate and talk of northern developments.

Ken Rostad, Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs, will lead the Alberta delegation. Northern regions including states, republics and provinces in Finland, Japan, China, Canada, Russia, Sweden, Norway, and the United States, will be present at the conference.

"Toward the New Development of Northern Regions" is the theme of the conference beginning September 11, 1995. Amongst other discussions, leaders from all regions will lay the initial framework for future economic and business relations. At the symposia, experts and researchers will discuss common challenges facing the northern regions. Through Northern Forum, leaders have a more effective voice in the international decisions that affect their regions.

Klondiking the Japanese Way

Alberta experienced Klondike Days in great Japanese style this year. In celebration of Hokkaido and Alberta's 15th anniversary as twin provinces, Japan was the "feature country" at the Edmonton Klondike Days Exposition from July 19-29, 1995.

On July 19th, members of the Hokkaido delegation were promoting trade and investment between the twin provinces. At the "Say HAI to Japan Business Seminar," representatives from Hokkaido made presentations on the positive business environment in their province. In addition, Japanese companies highlighted new business opportunities for foreign companies.

Many Albertans enjoyed cultural festivities at the Edmonton Klondike Days Exposition. While saying HAI to Japan, few visitors passing the feature country restaurant could escape the aroma of fine Japanese cuisine. Next to the restaurant, the Karoke Bar served Gekkeikan Sake and a one-of-a-kind, two-litre can of Sapporo Beer. Giftware companies introduced many new products and provided samples of confectionery items such as a Japanese version of Belgian chocolates.

The feature country exhibit had many displays of exquisite cultural traditions. Visitors were able to enjoy daily Koto (Japanese harp) performances as well as Japanese drum groups and traditional dancers. "Ikebana" (traditional Japanese flower arranging), "origami" (paper folding) and "chigiri-e" (paper collage) filled the hall with artistic beauty. The serene splendour of an authentic

continued on Page 3

Exchanging People, Exchanging Ideas

Students from Alberta and Hokkaido are exchanging places in their schools. At present, 14 schools in Alberta are twinned with schools in Hokkaido. The activities range from pen-pal relationships to student and teacher exchanges at the junior high, senior high, and post-secondary levels.

Each year Alberta receives two Japanese teachers from Hokkaido to teach in Alberta senior high schools. In exchange, Hokkaido has hired a number of Alberta's "English as a Second Language" teachers who also act as "cultural consultants." The cross-cultural exchange of our teachers has contributed significantly to the development of a Japanese language curriculum in Alberta schools.

The opportunity to visit Hokkaido delights Alberta students. In 1994, Graham Ellis, a student of D.S. McKenzie Junior High School in Edmonton, participated in an exchange program with a twin school in Hokkaido. During his 15 day stay, Graham stayed with two different Hokkaidan families and attended 4 days of classes at the Fuhimi Junior High School. "I learned a lot from living with the families," said Graham after returning to Alberta. "The food and how we ate it was very, very different." Following a few days of attending classes, the exchange students spent the rest of the trip touring the sights of Japan.

Alberta post-secondary institutions also have strong affiliations with their Hokkaido counterparts. The ongoing relationships between the universities include a student exchange and joint study programs in language training, construction techniques, and Canadian studies.

One example of the student exchange program involves the University of Lethbridge and Hokkaigakuen University. In May 1995, fifteen students and two instructors from the University of Lethbridge traveled to Hokkaido for a four week stay. In return, the Hokkaigakuen students will receive a warm welcome from their Lethbridge counter-parts when they visit Alberta in 1996.

Further twinning relationships at the post-secondary level include the University of Calgary and the Hokkaido University of Education. Since 1990, these twin universities allowed for an annual exchange of students and staff.

Premier Klein and Governor Hori discussed aspects of the educational exchange program during their July 1995 meeting. The twin provinces find the program successful and agreed that it should continue.

Traditional Japanese Kite

New Hokkaido Representative Posted to Alberta

During their meeting on July 26, 1995, Governor Hori and Premier Klein signed a staff agreement. The letter of understanding confirmed the terms of the posting of Tetsuo Sato as the second Hokkaido official in Alberta.

Mr. Sato's assignment is to develop and maximize opportunities arising from the relationship. He will coordinate visits and missions from Hokkaido, assist Alberta government departments with Hokkaido-related activities and provide support to the respective private sectors by identifying potential commercial exchange opportunities.

The secondment is a joint venture. The Hokkaido government covers Mr. Sato's salary, travel and associated expenses, and the Government of Alberta covers administrative costs.

continued from Page 2

Japanese garden complemented the cultural experience as a whole.

Shortly after the Exposition, Edmonton's Northlands Coliseum did a study on the visitors to the 1995 Klondike Days. Over 670,000 people visited the Exposition, with 40% of adults indicating that they attended specifically to view the "Say HAI to Japan" feature country exhibit.

continued from Page 1

power industry was also on the mission with Governor Hori. Hokkaido purchases a lot of coal from abroad and the possibility of buying more Alberta coal was addressed. Hokkaido is also interested in pursuing regional development programs in their efforts to revitalize communities. The Premier assured the Governor that Alberta would be pleased to work with Hokkaido on both opportunities.

Though the friendship mission had a full itinerary of trade talks and meetings, Governor and Mrs. Hori enjoyed the festivities at Edmonton's Klondike Days, the Provincial Museum, and the Lethbridge Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden. They took an extra two days to visit both Banff and Kananaskis.

The visit concluded on a very positive note with the Twin Town Conference hosted by the Town of Stony Plain. Mayors and representatives from all the twinned towns gathered with business, commercial and educational representatives from their overseas counterparts.

• •

Playing Hard to Get: Ian Riches of United Cinemas International noted this interesting sign at a railway station near Tokyo. "Luckily, the ban on acts that might be convenient did not seem to extend to the sale of tickets," he said.

WARNING

THE FOLLOWING BEHAVIORS IN THE STATION ARE PROHIBITED BY LAW WITHOUT PERMISSION. IF YOU ACT AGAINST THIS LAW, YOU WILL BE PUNISHED.

1. Distribution of goods and prining materials and passing of bills.
2. Musical performance, canvassing, fundraising signature collecting canpaign etc.
3. Sales of goods.
4. Any other acts that might be convenient to persons.

The Railway Police Chief.
The Kaihin-makuhari Stationmaster.

Travellers' Tales
July 20, 1995

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APPENDIX D

GOVERNOR TATSUYA HORI, HOKKAIDO, JAPAN

Included courtesy of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Prepared by: The Government of Hokkaido

Governor Tatsuya Hori
Hokkaido, Japan

Mr. Tatsuya Hori was elected Governor of the Prefecture of Hokkaido in April 1995, racing past four other candidates by winning nearly 60 percent of the total vote, and beginning his first four-year term. Before running in the gubernatorial race, he was Senior Vice-Governor under former Governor Yokomichi for a year and a half beginning in 1993. As such, he was a key liaison official between the Governor and the residents of Hokkaido.

Mr. Hori has long served as a public employee. After graduating in 1958 from the Hokkaido University Department of Agriculture, specializing in Forestry, he immediately began his career as a forestry management administrator in the Hokkaido Government. His enthusiasm during these early years led to the recent creation of an environment-oriented "Citizens' Forest" project, in which large tracts of forests are set aside as recreational sites for citizens to enjoy and learn about forests. In 1974, he was stationed in the Hokkaido Osaka Office as the official in charge of sales promotion for Hokkaido-produced lumber. While in this tradition steeped city of commerce, he learned from the wisdom of entrepreneurship, developed networks with business people and polished his management skills. Back in the Sapporo head office, he took major posts involved in project planning, such as the creation of the Northern Forum, development of small businesses and a women's independence plan designed to encourage women's deeper participation in social activities. More recently, in paving the way for the epoch-making 24-hour operations of New Chitose Airport, he demonstrated outstanding leadership by frequently meeting with local residents in order to successfully obtain their consent in this large-scale project.

In his inaugural address delivered to the Hokkaido Assembly in June 1995, Governor Hori elaborated on the goals and challenges of his administration for the next four years. He said, "There are boundless possibilities and a promising future ahead of us in Hokkaido. Let us focus on our future goals, and move forward together, step by step, taking the surest path of change and reform, in order to make the next 100 years the century of hopes and dreams."

Governor Hori, further referring to Hokkaido's potentials, said that, in Japan, where most advanced technologies and industries thrive, Hokkaido remains as the land still luckily blessed by Mother Nature with spacious living environment, and open to the future development. We are certainly facing difficult challenges, but, he says, we must

concentrate our efforts on overcoming these issues and building up a more attractive Hokkaido by utilizing the utmost of our potential. In order to realize these common goals, Governor Hori highlighted the following four targets for his administration.

1. In the forthcoming 21st century when the environment will be a vital issue, we should seek out a new "partnership" between nature and human beings in Hokkaido.

2. We should re-evaluate the excellent living conditions in Hokkaido as represented by the vast natural surroundings with a relaxed, easy tempo of life, by encouraging people to develop a more diversified culture through providing dwellers a stage on which to lead a more comfortable and meaningful life.

3. We should assist in establishing communities open to everyone, where different life-styles co-exist and every member is respected as an individual, as well as where people can take pride in their varied ways of life.

4. We should inspire and actively assist creative enterprises and strong primary industries linked with international communities. It is also necessary to establish environmental-friendly industries which are closely related to local communities.

In pursuing these targets, Governor Hori regards it as requisite that all partnerships be based on mutual trust between the Governor and the people, between the Prefecture and municipalities, as well as between the governments and the private sector.

Born in 1935 on Sakhalin Island, Mr. Hori spent his young days in the eastern Hokkaido town of Engaru. His wife is named Kumiko and they have a son and a daughter. He is an ardent sportsman, playing golf (handicap of 9), climbing mountains and skiing.

APPENDIX E

JAPAN–ALBERTA RELATIONS

Included courtesy of Alberta Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Prepared by: International Division
Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs
November 1995

JAPAN–ALBERTA RELATIONS

Alberta's relations with Japan focus on trade and investment, and are complemented by the 15-year twinning relationship between Alberta and the Japanese prefecture of Hokkaido. Alberta established a Tokyo Office in 1970 which has served Alberta's economic and other interests in Japan over the years.

A Japanese consulate was established in Edmonton in 1967, and was subsequently elevated to a Consulate General in 1972. The office serves over 7,000 Japanese Canadians in the province.

Trade and Investment

Japan is Alberta's most important off-shore trading partner with **1994 merchandise exports exceeding $1.32 billion**. The **1995 mid-year value** of Alberta exports to Japan totalled **$870 million**, an increase of almost 35% over the same period the previous year. Alberta's principal exports to Japan in 1994 were **coal ($367 million), wood pulp ($207 million), canola ($205 million), wood chips, wheat, barley, petrochemicals**, and a number of other **agricultural products**.

Alberta Exports to Japan ($ billion)

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	*2Q 1995*
Value of Exports	1.15	1.08	1.07	1.18	1.32	*0.87*

- The demands of the Japanese market are changing and Alberta must focus on exporting higher value-added goods. Japan's demand for imports of raw material will likely remain stagnant or decline as manufacturing production is increasingly shifted offshore, particularly to southeast Asia.

- Expanded trade opportunities are projected for a variety of sectors including **construction and building products**, **agrifood products,** (with particular emphasis on further **processed products**, inclusive of meats and processed meat products, **semiprocessed and processed grain-based products** [i.e. noodles], **canola oil**) **software, services for the elderly, tourism,** and **oil and gas joint ventures in third countries.**

Japan has been a major source of investment for Alberta and more than $2 billion has been injected into various projects in the past five years. These include two pulp mills, an oilsands investment, and a pharmaceutical joint venture. Although Alberta continues to encourage Japanese investment in energy, forestry, agriculture, tourism, high technology and manufacturing, Japanese investments in North America declined sharply during the 1990s as a result of the global economic downturn. Alberta's investment promotion strategy includes missions to Japan to conduct investment seminars and the preparation of detailed investment proposals for prospective investors.

Agriculture

Japan is the world's largest food importer (over US $50 billion/year), and continues to show potential for further growth in this area. However, Japan has had a highly protected agricultural market. Alberta hoped to expand and diversify the nature of its agricultural and food trade with Japan by taking maximum advantage of the GATT Uruguay Round.

- Alberta has identified Japan as a priority market for exports of **red meats and processed foods.** To promote these and other agricultural commodities, emphasis has been placed on refinement of products and packaging for the Japanese market, the continuation of the Marketing Executive Exchange Program, and support for the Canada Meat Export Federation.

- Alberta's objectives with respect to trade and investment include forging strategic alliances with Japan's industry to develop further value-added products. Alberta has made significant gains in its objectives to expand value-added food exports.

Energy

- **Coal**, valued at $367 million in 1994, is Alberta's primary energy export to Japan. Alberta **metallurgical coal** is sold to the steel industry for use in automobiles and other Japanese export products. **Thermal coal** is also sold to power authorities. Potential exists to increase the volume of exports, but current market prices preclude significant new investment at this time.

- Japanese interests have a 25% interest, through the Canada Oil Sands Company Ltd, in 17% of Alberta's entire recoverable **oil sands**.

Forest Products

- Alberta's **forest products** exports to Japan in 1994 totalled over $325 million.

- The Japanese housing market is seen as providing significant new opportunities for Alberta suppliers of **building products**.

- Japan has been targeted as a key source for new value-added investments in the Alberta **pulp and paper industry**. The province will also focus on attracting new investments for the **fine-paper industry**.

Tourism

Japan is Alberta's second largest off-shore tourism market with over 115,000 visitors spending $107.1 million here in 1994. Many of these tourists confine their visits to Alberta's mountain parks during the peak summer season. Efforts are underway to diversify the destinations visited in Alberta and to encourage more off-peak tourism. Progress is slowly being made toward this goal, especially as repeat visitors seek to diversify their Alberta tourism experience.

Tourism from Japan to Alberta

	Number of Tourists	Expenditure $ million
1990	72,700	58.116
1994	115,500	107.1

Science and Technology

Japan is a major source of potential cooperation in **basic and applied research**, and Alberta is eager to promote and expand existing scientific cooperation via strategic alliances between research and development organizations, and with direct **joint venture linkages** between Alberta and Japanese companies.

Education

- In 1995–96, one nominee from Hokkaido was awarded a Minister of Advanced Education International Education Award to study in Alberta. One Albertan received a socio-cultural study scholarship from the Hokkaido Government for one year of study in Japan.

- There are approximately 27 linkages and agreements on cooperation between post-secondary institutions in Alberta and Japan, including eight in Hokkaido. These agreements provide for cooperation in areas such as pharmaceutical sciences, agriculture, education, medicine, economics, language studies, social work and communications. As a result of the agreements with Hokkaido and with assistance from Advanced Education and Career Development, Alberta students have been able to complete intensive immersion language courses in Japan and have had first-hand exposure to Japanese culture.

- In May 1993, the University of Calgary led a tour by Canadian universities to Japan to study successful Canadian companies operating in Japan. The university has developed case studies on six companies and prepared a document of teaching cases for use in university business schools. It also developed material to be made available to Alberta companies interested in entering the Japanese market.

- Alberta institutions are continuing their efforts to market **English language programs** and **study tours** in Japan.

- This includes representatives of the Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta, who visited Japan in May 1993 to follow up on existing arrangements to provide English as a Second Language (ESL) and cultural awareness. Participation has been growing steadily since then. Approximately 200 Japanese students from six Japanese Universities took part in special summer classes in Edmonton in 1995.

- The University of Alberta and Toho University have an agreement in pharmaceutical sciences which allows one staff member from Japan to complete a clinical placement term in Alberta and graduate students from Alberta to study at Toho.

Culture

- An ethnographic exhibit entitled "Aboriginal Cultures of Alberta" was displayed at the Hokkaido Museum of Historical Monuments in Sapporo from July to September 1993. Focusing primarily on Blackfoot and Cree artifacts of the late 1800s to early 1900s, the exhibition was a great success. Ainu (Hokkaido aboriginal) and contemporary Japanese art is being exhibited in Alberta (both Edmonton and Calgary) in 1995 as part of the 15th anniversary celebrations of the Alberta–Hokkaido twinning.

- In 1990, Alberta provided Japanese sponsors with displays and dinosaur bones for the successful staging of Hitachi Dinoventure '90. The exhibit spawned a sequence of satellite exhibits in various centres in Japan. In 1994, the Ex-Terra Foundation's touring exhibit of dinosaur bones enjoyed a very successful run in Osaka.

- Due to the popularity of western cultural products and performers in Japan, emphasis is on the promotion of Alberta's artistic talent including art exhibitions, performing artists and Alberta-made films. Japanese investment in Alberta's **publishing and film-making industries** is also being sought.

Strategic Relationship with Hokkaido

One of the most productive areas of Alberta's relationship with Japan is the province's special relationship with the Prefecture of Hokkaido. A joint Proclamation of Friendship and Affiliation was signed in 1980, and in 1990 the 10th anniversary of the special relationship was marked by special events in both provinces. The 15th anniversary commemoration ceremonies centred on Hokkaido's participation as "feature country" in Edmonton's 1995 Klondike Days exposition.

Cooperation between the sister provinces has encompassed such areas as trade and investment, agriculture, education, sports and recreation, scientific research and medicine. Notable co-operative ventures include the Hokkaido–Alberta Commercial Exchange Committee (HACEC), and the establishment and hosting of the International Symposium on Cold Regions Development (with the participation of Heilongjiang, China, also twinned with both Alberta and Hokkaido). Alberta government departments, academic and commercial institutions, as well as businesses' general community, work closely to carry out the many exchanges and programs that characterize this unique linkage.

In June 1994, Duane Sandberg was posted for six months as Alberta's Representative in Hokkaido as part of a staff exchange program. Toshiyuki Kuroda, Hokkaido's Representative in Alberta, worked out of the International Division of FIGA for three years beginning in August 1992. His replacement, Tetsuo Sato arrived in Alberta in June 1995.

Visits and Missions

In November 1993, Premier Klein led a mission to Asia, visiting Sapporo, Osaka, Nagano and Tokyo. The Premier met with senior officials, members of the Keidanren, and the representatives of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry. As a result of the Premier's mission, Alberta agreed to send a trade official to Sapporo to develop new trade ties between Alberta and Hokkaido. The Premier also visited the Asia Pacific Centre in Osaka to promote the Ex-Terra Dinosaur project and the Seiyu Department Store in Tokyo to promote Alberta vegetables. Canadian wood furniture, coal and oil, beer, pork, beef and other food products were also actively promoted by the mission.

Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Minister, Walter Paszkowski, led a mission to Japan in the summer of 1994 to pursue Alberta agrifood export opportunities.

Alberta's Minister of Health, Shirley McClellan, visited Japan in October 1994 to promote Alberta's expertise in volunteer development at a world conference for volunteers. The Minister's mission also included tours to Japanese health facilities and presentations to Japanese contacts involved in tourism, building products, agriculture, energy, petrochemicals, and consumer products.

Alberta's Minister of Energy, Pat Black, is planning a mission to Japan in November 1995, focusing on the Japanese coal and steel industries.

Japanese Representation in Alberta

The Consulate General of Japan in Alberta is located in Edmonton. Mr. Masuji Yamamoto assumed his duties as the Consul General in December 1994. Mr. Yamamoto maintains an active interest in the promotion of two way trade between Alberta and Japan.

APPENDIX F

ALBERTA SCHOOL TWINNINGS WITH HOKKAIDO

Included courtesy of National and International Education, Alberta Education.

ALBERTA SCHOOL TWINNINGS WITH HOKKAIDO

ASIAN SCHOOL TWINNING PROGRAM
School Twinnings with Hokkaido

Ashmont Secondary School
Box 330
Ashmont, Alberta, Canada
T0A 0C0

Banff Elementary School
Box 748
Banff, Alberta, Canada
T0L 0C0

Brooks Composite High School
Bag 849
Brooks, Alberta, Canada
T1R 0H4

D. S. MacKenzie Junior High School
4020 – 106 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T6J 1A6

Eastglen School and Ross Sheppard School

11430 – 68 Street	13546 – 111 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta	Edmonton, Alberta
Canada	Canada
T5B 1P1	T5M 2P2

Glendale School
6375 – 77 Street
Red Deer, Alberta, Canada
T4P 3E9

Hays School
Box 29
Hays, Alberta, Canada
T0K 1B0

Pippu Junior High School
Kita 2 sen 8 gou, Pippu-cho
Kamikawa-gun, Hokkaido 078–03
Japan

Shirataki Elementary School
744 Shirataki Shirataki-mura
Monbetsu-gun, Hokkaido 099–01
Japan

and

Shiyubetsu Elementary School
744 Shirataki Shirataki-mura
Monbetsu-gun, Hokkaido 099–01
Japan

Hiroo Senior High School
Higashi 1-chome Namiki-dori
Hiroo-cho, Hiroo-gun
Hokkaido 089–26
Japan

Fushimi Junior High School
South 16, West 17
Chuo-ku
Sapporo, Hokkaido
Japan

Sapporo Intercultural and
Technological High School
717–1 Shinkawa Kita-ku
Sapporo, Hokkaido
Japan

Furano Nishi Junior High School
1–1 Katsuragi-cho
Furano, Hokkaido 070
Japan

Tomioka Public School
Tomioka 224, Hayakita-cho
Yufutsu-gun, Hokkaido
Japan

Hilltop High School
71 Sunset Boulevard
Whitecourt, Alberta, Canada
T7S 1N1

Jasper Place Composite High School
8950 – 163 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T5R 2P2

La Perle Community School
18715 – 97A Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T5T 4C1

Lacombe Composite High School
P.O. Bag Service 78
Lacombe, Alberta, Canada
T0C 1S0

Lacombe Junior High School
5830 – 50 Street
Lacombe, Alberta, Canada
T4L 1G5

Lethbridge Collegiate Institute
5 Avenue and 17 Street South
Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
T1J 0W4

Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School
4204 – 58 Street
Red Deer, Alberta, Canada
T4N 2L6

Kamiyubetsu Junior High School
Tonden-shigaichi
Kamiyubetsu-cho
Monbetsu-gun, Hokkaido 099–65
Japan

and

Yubetsu Senior High School
846–2 Nakayubetsu
Kamiyubetsu-cho
Monbetsu-gun, Hokkaido 099–63
Japan

Kamifurano High School
Higashi-machi 3
Kamifurano, Hokkaido 071–05
Japan

Taisei Kindergarten
080, Nishi 22-jo, Minami 4-chome, 26
Obihiro-shi, Hokkaido, Japan

Tomakomai General Economics High School
7–2 Shinkaicho 4-chome
Tomakomai-shi
Hokkaido 053, Japan

Rikubetsu Junior High School
334 Rikubetsu-genya-kisen
Rikubetsu-cho
Ashoro-gun, Hokkaido 089–43
Japan

Hokkai Senior High School
4–1–41, Asahimachi Toyohiraku
Sapporo 062, Japan

and

Sapporo Commercial High School
4-chome, Asahimachi Toyohiraku
Sapporo 062, Japan

Asahikawa Ryoun Senior High School
3-chome, Nagayama
Asahikawa, Hokkaido 079
Japan

Lorne Jenken High School
5307 – 53 Avenue
Barrhead, Alberta, Canada
T7N 1P2

Pioneer School
5516 – 54 Street
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, Canada
T0M 1T3

Queen Elizabeth School
9425 – 132 Avenue
Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada
T5E 0Y4

R. J. Hawkey Elementary School
233 Big Springs Drive
Airdrie, Alberta, Canada
T4A 1C4

Robert Rundle Elementary School
50A Grosvenor Boulevard
St. Albert, Alberta, Canada
T8N 0X6

Will Sinclair School
5207 – 48 Street
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, Canada
T0M 1T3

Woodhaven Junior High School
475 – King Street
Spruce Grove, Alberta, Canada
T7Z 2T7

Tokoro Senior High School
574–2 Tokoro
Tokoro-cho
Tokoro-gun, Hokkaido 093–02
Japan

Kamikawa Junior High School
114 Kita-machi
Kamikawa-cho
Kamikawa-gun, Hokkaido 078–17
Japan

Ashoro Junior High School
4–4 Satomigaoka
Ashoro-cho
Ashoro-gun, Hokkaido 089–37
Japan

Omori Elementary School
6–11 Omori-cho
Hakodate, Hokkaido 040
Japan

Tonkeshi Elementary School
7–2 Tonkeshi-cho, Noboribetsu-shi
Hokkaido 059–03, Japan

Hamanaka Junior High School
Hamanaka-shigai
Hamanaka-cho
Akkeshi-gun, Hokkaido 088–14
Japan

Obihiro Daiichi Junior High School
1 North 7, West 13
Obihiro-shi, Hokkaido 080
Japan

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